JPRS 76963

9 December 1980

Sub-Saharan Africa Report

No. 2330

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available from Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

JPRS 76963

9 December 1980

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

No. 2330

CONTENTS

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Qadhdhafi's Intentions in Chad Said To Be Unclear
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 1

Confusion Over Extent of Libyan Involvement in Chad Noted
(LE MONDE, 23-24 Nov 80) 3

Problems in Senegalese, Gambian Relations Noted
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 4

Visiting Angola MPLA Delegation Departs Congo, Communique Issued
(Brazzaville Domestic Service, 27 Nov 80) 7

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Briefs
Patasse Freed From Prison 9
Bokassa Aides' Death Sentences 9

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Briefs
'No Urgent Need' for Election 10

GAMBIA

Drought Having Catastrophic Effects on Economy
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 11

LIBERIA

MOJA Member Discusses Post-Coup Changes
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 13

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Seen Supporting USSR Foreign Policy
(Daniel Vernet; LE MONDE, 25 Nov 80) 15

SIERRE LEONE

People Showing Desire for Change
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 16

Uncertainty Mars Future of Higher Education
(WEST AFRICA, 17 Nov 80) 18

ZIMBABWE

Commentary on U.S. Election, Carter Aid Promise Given
(Editorials; THE HERALD, 6 Nov 80) 21

Reportage on Local Elections
(THE HERALD, 21, 24 Nov 80; THE SUNDAY MAIL, 23 Nov 80) 23

Polls Changed in Salisbury and Bulawayo
Big Turnout
ZANU (PF) Victories

Zimbabwe Team to Maputo Talks Named
(THE SUNDAY MAIL, 23 Nov 80) 27

Reportage on Possibility of Soviet Diplomatic Representation
(THE HERALD, 20, 22 Nov 80) 28

Appointments 'Cancelled'
USSR Seeks Cooperation

Reportage on Labor Strikes, Union Actions
(THE HERALD, various dates; THE SUNDAY MAIL,
23 Nov 80) 30

Order Ignored by 4000
Ultimatum Ignored, Strikers Arrested
Legal Action Planned, Industry Hurt
Union Leaders Targeted
Some End Strike, Unions Appeal

President's Views on Social Role of Church Reported
(THE HERALD, 21 Nov 80) 38

Air Force 'Infantry' Formed
(WEST AFRICA, 22 Nov 80) 43

Controversial Shona Bible Examined
(THE SUNDAY MAIL, 23 Nov 80) 44

Widen Markets, Urges Swedish Trade Body
(THE HERALD, 24 Nov 80) 46

Effort To Upgrade Poor Food Reported
(THE HERALD, 24 Nov 80) 48

'Operation Seed' Difficulties Reported
(THE SUNDAY MAIL, 23 Nov 80) 49

Briefs
Over-Age Civil Servants 50
Young Socialist League Planned 50
Guerrillas Relocated 50
Inflation Warning 51
RF Candidates 51
Labor Union Merger Denied 51
5,000 Families Resettled 51
More Aid From U.K. 52
Tynwald Squatter Houses Razed 52
Air Force Trainees 52

QADHDHAFI's INTENTIONS IN CHAD SAID TO BE UNCLEAR

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 p 2276

[Text] IT WOULD be rash to attempt an explanation of Colonel Gaddafi's motives. The accusations of subversive Libyan behaviour in The Gambia and Senegal and the confirmation of the intervention of a substantial number of Libyan troops in Chad lends weight to the view that Colonel Gaddafi has grandiose, though self-contradictory and perverse, sub-Saharan designs.

His acts have also included support for Iran against Arab Iraq, support for Ethiopians against Muslim Somalis, the encouragement of turbulence in Sudan, with Libyan students occupying the Libyan Embassy in Khartoum last week, a speech three weeks ago which was tantamount to incitement to rebellion among the Tuareg tribes in Mali and Niger and, of course, the support given to Idi Amin.

What is one to make of this? Is the colonel the fifth column, as some will have it, of a long-term Soviet plan for Africa? Is he a radical religious zealot fighting his own Jihad with baffling opportunism but well protected by the wealth at his country's disposal?

Colonel Gaddafi has acquitted himself well domestically. He has seen to the improvements badly needed in the material life of Libyans. He is devout, and, as his Green book shows, an evangelist. It is true to say that his Pan-Arab ambitions have been frustrated. This is given as the reason for his interest in Africa. But there is nothing new to that interest. Colonel Gaddafi has been dispensing goodwill and aid in many parts of West Africa for a number of years. He was at the forefront of the campaign to entice certain states to break diplomatic relations with Israel.

President Senghor has accused him of being a racialist and of wanting to set up a Sahelian state which would streich from the Atlantic through to Sudan, including the nomadic populations of this region. President Senghor has also been at the forefront of the campaign against Libya's activities in Chad.

The problem of Chad is a more serious affair than the other Gaddafi adventures. For almost nine months, since the eruption of fighting in March, Goukhouni Weddei's camp, which includes the Libyan protégé, Ahmat Acyl, has seemed to have the better of Hissen Habre's Forces Armées du Nord, who are undoubtedly supported by Egypt. But Habre has managed to hold off the pressure. This year alone has cost at least 5,000 lives.

It is reported that Colonel Gaddafi accompanied President Weddei on a tour of Faya Largeau, which Habre claimed had been in his control last week. It is not clear whether the Libyan units that have penetrated into Chad intend to approach or enter N'Djamena. If they do so the FROLINAT — as the Goukhouni camp still refers to itself — will have received a considerable boost for its objective of eliminating Habre. If the end result is the unity of the Chadian state — something which has never occurred since independence — then a first step to a solution in Chad will have been taken.

Regardless of Libya's intentions in Chad, one thing that is certain is that the civil war in Chad was caused and has been continued by foreign interference. To criticise Libya alone is either ignorant or hypothetical.

As to the future, secession of the south is unlikely. No one in Africa will permit this, least of all Chad's neighbours. The question in most minds is whether a victory of an alliance patronised by Libya will result in Libyan control of whatever future regime

emerges in Chad. The country has a vital strategic position in Africa and this increases the fears of Libya using Chad as a springboard for southern penetration into Africa. One can be sure that Lagos is dealing with this delicate issue already; Tripoli is well aware that it must balance the Nigerian desire not to sour relations with Libya with Nigeria's immediate regional interests.

The judgement on Colonel Gaddafi's intentions in Chad must be postponed. His annexation of the Aouzou strip in northern Chad will be a test case for any future Chadian regime.

CSO: 4420

CONFUSION OVER EXTENT OF LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN CHAD NOTED

LD261141 Paris LE MONDE in French 23-24 Nov 80 p 26

[Unattributed report: "Controversy Over the Size of the Libyan Intervention in the Battle for N'Djamena"]

[Text] A controversy is developing about the presence of Libyan troops in the Chadian capital where fighting is still going on between supporters of northern armed forces [FAN] leader Hissein Habre and of Goukouni Oueddei, president of the National Union Transition Government [GUNT], head of state and leader of the People's Armed Forces [FAP] which are now fighting in close cooperation with the Chadian Armed Forces under GUNT Vice President Lieutenant Colonal Kamougue.

On Friday, 21 November, FAP circles denied any direct involvement by the Libyan army although the FAN camp was still asserting that it has "irrefutable proof of Libyan presence alongside the FAP."

For their part several Western journalists who were able to visit N'Djamena from the Cameroonian city of Kousseri said on Friday that they had received no confirmation in N'Djamena of the presence of Libyan troops despite the reports recently cited by the Pentagon on the presence of 3,000 to 4,000 Libyan soldiers in Chad. It is true that FAP did not allow those journalists to visit the battle zone. However, they were able to observe almost daily attacks by a Soviet-made Tupolev 22 bomber apparently belonging to the Libyan Air Force and the presence in Chadian air space of a Libyan U.S.-made Chinook-type helicopter.

While making a brief stopover in Paris GUNT spokesman (Thiam Tidjani) said that his government "has appealed to Libya for help in putting down the uprising" and denied that the Tripoli leaders wish to "destabilize the countries in the Sahel area." Mr Tidjani added: "If any country but Libya had intervened in Chad, some governments would not have reacted unfavorably."

The Foreign Ministry, which is reiterating the remarks made recently by [French Foreign Minister] Jean Francois-Poncet who said that France "is following very closely" developments in the Chad situation, stated that it is not in a position to confirm the presence of as big an expeditionary force outside N'Djamena as the Pentagon has indicated. In addition, French experts on African questions are showing skepticism about Libya's ability to send a expeditionary force representing almost one-tenth of the regular army so far away from its home bases at a time when major concentrations of Libyan troops are also being reported on the Tunisian and Egyptian borders.

CSO: 4400

PROBLEMS IN SENEGALESE, GAMBIAN RELATIONS NOTED

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 pp 2278-2280

[Text] AT THE HEART of the latest incidents in The Gambia lies the issue of relations between Banjul and Dakar. This central problem has been obscured somewhat by allegations of subversion brought against Libya by the Senegalese leader, President Seghor, and the Gambian Government, which broke off relations with Libya on October 29, the day before 150 Senegalese troops suddenly appeared in Banjul. Some 40 of these troops landed unexpectedly in MacCarthy Square on Friday, October 31, during the funeral procession of Commander Eku Mahoney, Deputy Commander of the Field Forces, while the rest of the Senegalese were deployed to neutralise the airport at Yundum and the Field Forces garrison at Baku, 15 kilometres from the capital.

Events were precipitated by the shooting of Commander Mahoney. The version of his death put out by the Gambian authorities was that the commander had caught a constable, Mustapha Darso, on duty smoking cannabis and was shot by Danso. Sources in Dakar maintain that his death occurred when disagreements arose among a group of plotters. There was contact, it is alleged, between the plotters and the staff of the inordinately large Libyan Embassy in Banjul.

The Gambia broke off relations with Libya because it alleged that young Gambians were being trained in Libya for subversive activities in The Gambia "or the sub-region". On July 15, the Gambian Government had sent an official protest to Tripoli complaining of the treatment of Gambians who, the government alleged, were being forcibly taken into military training. The recruiter in The Gambia was Sheikh Ahmet Niasse, who has already acquired a certain notoriety in Senegal for his claim that he will lead Islamic forces in Senegal to create an Islamic republic. The government release on the break of diplomatic relations with Libya repeated the allegations that embassy staff in Banjul had been "collaborating with subversive clandestine groups in The Gambia," according to The Gambia Information News Services.

The first release about the arrival of the Senegalese troops issued two days after they came, rather mysteriously referred to "combined manoeuvres" between the two countries forces.

The following day two small radical opposition parties were banned: MOJA, the Gambian namesake of the Liberian Movement for Justice in Africa, which has existed since late 1979, and the Gambian Socialist Revolutionary Party. Both were outlawed and had most of their leaders arrested, among them Mr. Koro Sall, the MOJA leader.

By the following weekend the Senegalese troops were due to leave and whatever tension there was in Banjul had been dispelled, largely as a result of the surprise effect of the arrival of the Senegalese.

Behind these straightforward facts lie a series of questions that remain unanswered. What was the role of Sheikh Ahmet Niasse, the "Ayatollah of Kaolack", as he is derisively known in Senegal? Was it the Gambians who invited the Senegalese of their own accord or did the Senegalese persuaded the Gambians of some Libyan involvement, and therefore of the need for Senegalese protection? Why the delay and contradiction in some of the communiques concerning the presence of the Senegalese troops in The Gambia? Lastly, to what

extent is the Libyan question, however real, little more than a diversion from the real question of Gambian-Senegalese relations, which have never been of the happiest?

Those well acquainted with Gambian and Senegalese affairs are not altogether convinced of the significance of Sheikh Ahmet Niasse. He acquired a certain notoriety in Senegal when he emerged in Paris last year proclaiming that he would turn Senegal into an Islamic republic and subsequently smuggled some cassettes of his speeches and thoughts into Senegal, through The Gambia. They were intended for his home region of Kaolack. He then found refuge in Libya. Niasse, however, is not taken very seriously in Senegal. He lost ground when his own patron, M. Babacar Ba, ceased to be foreign minister. M. Babacar Ba had previously been the finance minister and had deployed substantial effort to Kaolack, where he built-up an important political base.

Now Sheikh Ahmet Niasse is being put forward as an agent of Libyan expansionism. Senegal broke off relations with Libya earlier this year for reasons identical to The Gambia's. It has now been suggested, though it seems somewhat far-fetched, that the Gambian imbroglio was to be a diversion while Libya penetrated into Chad.

What remains unclear is the Gambian reason for taking the momentous diplomatic step of permitting Senegalese troops to be sent to Banjul to ensure the security of the government. The convoluted and self-contradictory communique's that were issued following the Senegalese intervention testify to a degree of apprehension in Banjul. The Senegalese Government, for its part, issued a statement saying that 150 Senegalese troops had been sent to Banjul at the invitation of the Gambian Government and in accordance with a defence pact signed in 1967. As far as Dakar was concerned the Gambian talk of "combined manoeuvres" appeared too much like Gambian reluctance to admit the fact that it had invited the Senegalese to send troops. President Senghor, who is on a visit to France, has repeated his allegation that Libya is preparing to destabilise all the Sahelian countries, namely Senegal, The Gambia, Mali, Niger and Chad, by training an army of mixed nationals in Libya.

In the early sixties the Senegalese had seen the existence of The Gambia, then still a British colony, as a thorn in their side. The Gambia used to be referred to by Senegalese as "our Quebec". Before Gambian independence in 1965 protracted negotiations took place, following a UN report on the possibility of some close link between the two countries, to see if some formal relationship could be established. Union, for which the Senegalese pressed was rejected by the Gambian representatives. Some looser federated relationship met with Senegalese disapproval after their recent and unhappy problems with Mali — the Soudan Fédération between Mali and Senegal broke up.

In 1965, on the occasion of The Gambia independence an editorial appeared in these columns which highlighted the concerns which must prey on the minds of Gambian authorities today: "It is supposed by some that independence will be followed soon by union with Senegal, which surrounds The Gambia on all but her Atlantic side . . . Now it is quite certain that the union will not come soon, and it may never come at all . . . If independence should prove burdensome to the people of The Gambia, it will be the British and the French who are entirely to blame. They created it [and] in this case the creation, even if it has come to stay, has been a grave disservice to the peoples on either side of the frontiers.

"These frontiers are the result of the British supposition, since entirely disproved, that if Britain controlled strips of land alongside the Gambia River she would, in this way, attract to her own port of Bathurst the trade from surrounding Senegal . . . (The Gambia's) political worries are likely to be external, or at any rate to arise from her external relations. One cannot, for example, exclude the possibility that if union does not come soon, causes of conflict between The Gambia and Senegal may arise, either because of smuggling from The Gambia into Senegal, or because Senegal political exiles find refuge in The Gambia". (*West Africa*, February 13, 1965).

President Senghor and President Jawara later established a good personnel relationship and Senegal accepted that an independent The Gambia would continue to exist. Nevertheless, Senegalese domestic politics, as one in the case of Sheikh Ahmet Niasse, and smuggling have both been areas of deep concern to those who are responsible for relations between the two countries. Senegal is currently going through a period of high tension domestically, and the fact that Casamance, the southern region south of The Gambia, is almost cut off from the capital, adds to the

problems. Casamançais are still known to say when they leave Ziguinchor for Dakar that they "are going to Senegal". Smuggling into The Gambia has contributed substantially to the Gambian economy. Banjul is a port that has lower tariffs than Dakar and thus goods, especially luxury goods, find their way from Banjul into Dakar and other Senegalese centres.

The recent focal point of contention between the two countries has, however, been the Gambia River Development Organisation, OMVG. Differences over plans for a bridge and a dam on the Gambia River remain, practically speaking, unresolved. Earlier this year, the two governments finally agreed to the construction of a bridge, but the work has been delayed. The existence of such a bridge would facilitate Senegalese contact with Casamance, but would reduce the effectiveness of the boundaries of The Gambia.

The Gambia's initial concern had been to have a downstream barrage to desalinate the river. They have now agreed to a dam further up river which will provide more substantial irrigation facilities and with which goes a road over the dam. Work on the dam is at the earliest stages yet and the road must wait.

Such issues form the substance of relations between Senegal and The Gambia. Until recently one could describe the Gambian position towards Senegal as being successfully avoiding Senegalese encroachment, while trying to apply some economic flesh to formal sovereignty. This means that the presence of Senegalese troops in Banjul is of great significance. For the first time, Banjul has had to have recourse to Dakar for domestic political security. With this the Senegalese have acquired a vital lever for future negotiations with the Gambian Government. The next step may be pressure from Senegal to establish some form of customs union between the two countries.

CSO: 4420

VISITING ANGOLA MPLA DELEGATION DEPARTS CONGO, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

AB271846 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 27 Nov 80

[Text] The delegation of the MPLA-Workers Party led by Comrade (Jisula Laman) left Brazzaville late this morning following a 48-hour visit to the People's Republic of the Congo. The discussions between the MPLA delegation with the Congolese Labor Party ended this morning at the general secretariat of the party's Central Committee. The following is an excerpt from the communique issued at the end of the meeting:

During their discussions, the two delegations noted with satisfaction that the relations between the two parties have continued to develop and to be strengthened on the basis of their firm attachment to the principles of peace, militant solidarity and proletarian internationalism. The two delegations, which always remember the revolutionary commitments of the immortal Marien Ngouabi and Antonio Agostinho Neto, reaffirmed their firm determination to give more dynamism to the cooperation between both parties and develop the contacts between their respective mass organizations in order to ensure better harmonization of their common activities. The two delegations, therefore, agreed to actively search for ways and means of ensuring constant and harmonious development of the cooperation between the People's Republic of the Congo and the People's Republic of Angola by working firmly in a spirit of complementarity.

After a thorough examination of problems relating to the defense and security of the Congolese and Angolan revolutions, the two delegations undertook to increase their cooperation in this field in order to strengthen the defense and security of their common borders. After a large exchange of views on the experiences of the Congolese Labor Party and the MPLA-Workers Party, the two delegations reaffirmed their unanimous determination to work for a rational harmonization of their positions on all problems relating to the total liberation of the continent, the consolidation of African unity and the strengthening of unity, solidarity and cooperation among all the progressive countries of the world.

The delegation of the MPLA-Workers Party expressed happiness over the progress made by the Congolese Labor Party in the affirmation of the country's sovereignty in all fields and especially in the field of the construction of an

independent national economy for the establishment of a socialist society in the People's Republic of the Congo. The delegation of the Congolese Labor Party expressed great appreciation for the achievements of the MPLA-Workers Party in the political and economic fields which constitute the bases for the consolidation of the national independence and the affirmation of a socialist society in Angola as envisaged by the program and resolutions of the first constituent congress of the MPLA-Workers Party. The delegation of the Congolese Labor Party hails the (?establishment) of the popular authorities and the constitution of the People's Assembly in the People's Republic of Angola. The two delegations expressed complete satisfaction about the quality of their discussions which took place in a spirit of friendship, frankness, [words indistinct] and revolutionary warmth.

During the meeting, the two delegations also examined the international situation and expressed concern about the development of certain international problems which endanger the freedom of people and their right to dignity and progress and which constitute, therefore, a threat to international peace and security. Concerning Namibia, the two delegations condemned the illegal occupation of this territory as well as South Africa's delaying tactics aimed at hindering the implementation of the United Nations plan. They declared support for the UN plan and the application of resolution No 435 calling for the immediate independence of Namibia and reiterated their lasting solidarity with the SWAPO which is the only legitimate and authentic representative of the Namibian people. The two delegations strongly condemned the acts of aggression and barbarity perpetrated by the racist South African regime against the People's Republic of Angola and the front line countries. They expressed concern about the situation prevailing in South Africa and reaffirmed their moral support for the people of South Africa who are struggling against the odious and reactionary system of apartheid.

The two delegations congratulated the Saharan people for the brilliant victories achieved in the political, diplomatic and military fields under the leadership of the Polisario Front. They expressed their active solidarity and unreserved support for the heroic struggle of this brotherly people.

Concerning the Middle East situation, the two delegations reiterated their firm condemnation of the Camp David agreements and again assured the Palestine Liberation Organization of their lasting support for the right of the Palestine people to an independent and soverign state.

After analyzing the Chadian tragedy, the two delegations expressed great concern about the situation and declared firm support for the resolution on Chad adopted during the 17th OAU summit conference of heads of state and government held in Freetown from 1 to 4 July 1980 as well as their support for the transitional national union government headed by President Goukouni Oueddei. The two delegations expressed deep concern about the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq and hoped these two brotherly countries will meet rapidly to solve the conflict through negotiations.

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

PATASSE FREED FROM PRISON--Bangui, 24 Nov (AFP)--Mr Ange Patasse, the leader of the Central African People's Liberation Movement (MLPC), was provisionally set free by the Central African authorities, it was learned on Monday in Bangui. Mr Ange Patasse, whose health deteriorated 3 weeks ago, was admitted to the National Hospital in Bangui for medical care. Mr Patasse, who is convalescent, is living among his family in his residence located in a suburb north of Bangui, where he has been receiving relatives and friends for 2 days. Mr Patasse was arrested in October 1979 while he was trying to flee and he was kept in detention at the Ngaragba jail. He was notably accused of staging popular demonstrations in Bangui. [Text] [AB241808 Paris AFP in French 1659 GMT 24 Nov 80]

BOKASSA AIDES' DEATH SENTENCES--Bangui, 27 Nov (AFP)--The Central African Republic Supreme Court Wednesday confirmed death sentences meted out to five accomplices of ousted dictator Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa for their part in the massacre of schoolchildren during demonstrations here in January and April 1979. Former General Josephat Ma-Yomokola, former Captain Joseph Mokoa, soldiers Joseph Baissa and Pierre Koba and former minister to the imperial court Robert Boukende were sentenced by the criminal court on September 19 after being found guilty of murder, complicity to murder and disposal of dead bodies. President David Dacko, through a presidential clemency order, is their only remaining hope of avoiding execution. Delay over the trials of members of the ousted regime and the absence of any clarification over the situation of the ex-emperor, who is in exile in the Ivory Coast, are seen as a major cause of unease in this former French colony. Many of the families of the 100 or so schoolchildren who were murdered by members of Bokassa's imperial guard believe that Mr Dacko has slowed down the pace of the trials and hung back from ordering execution of sentences already imposed because of his links with most of the accused. Mr Dacko himself, speaking a few days ago, said that if the supreme court confirmed the death sentences he wanted to take the matter to a seminar of national reflection which is scheduled to meet between December 8 and 14. The seminar, part of a bid to bring about national reconciliation in the wake of the ravages of the Bokassa era, should consider this serious problem, the solution of which ought not to weigh on the conscience of one person alone, he added. [Text] [AB271118 Paris AFP in English 1025 GMT 27 Nov 80]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

'NO URGENT NEED' FOR ELECTION--Colonel Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbazogo, president of Equatorial Guinea, who ended his official working visit to Paris on Monday, 17 November, welcomed the increased cooperation between the two countries. "We have obtained French aid," he indicated during a press conference, "for constructing the port of Malabo, developing small-scale fishing and improving the capital's electricity network. France is also going to open a cultural center in Malabo in addition to the one already operating in Bata." Francesco Macias Nguema's successor also stated that there is "no urgent need" to organize elections in his country, since the "most important task is rebuilding the nation." [Text] [LD241123 Paris LE MONDE in French 19 Nov 80 p 4]

CSO: 4400

DROUGHT HAVING CATASTROPHIC EFFECTS ON ECONOMY

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 pp 2280-2281

[Text] THE GREAT Sahelian drought is having catastrophic effects on the Gambian economy. For the past twelve years, the state of the economy has gradually deteriorated. Agricultural production, the backbone of the economy, has been crippled by drought. This sharp decline is also having adverse effects on other sectors of the economy, as can be seen from all economic indicators. Consequently, there has been a depreciation in the country's foreign assets.

According to the 1980 Budget Speech, the gross domestic product has fallen from D251.4m. in 1978/79 to D200.1m. in 1979/80. The per capita income estimated at D440.42 has decreased compared with D526.09 in 1978/79.

Economic activity was rather sluggish during the past year. Barely 71,120 tonnes of groundnuts were bought by the licensed buying agents. This is about sixty per cent of the tonnage delivered in the previous year and hit earnings of the Gambia Produce Marketing Board which also had to contend with low world prices.

External trade is currently estimated at D402m., a rise of 27.6 per cent over last year's figures. Exports increased thanks to the rise in the value of fish which rose by about 56 per cent. The value of visible imports has also risen to about D2.96m., a 34.2 per cent increase compared to last year. This rise is much higher than that for exports.

Working from the consumer price index, the rate of inflation fell to 5 per cent as compared with 7.4 per cent in 1978/79. The increase in the prices of locally produced commodities accounted for 73 per cent of the total rise in the consumer price index during 1979/80.

During the last financial year, the deficit in visible trade was estimated at about D190m. compared with D127m. in 1978/79. One reason for this is the deterioration in the terms of trade during the past three years. But, in March, 1979 the country received D9.2m. under the Stabex Scheme of the Lome Convention in order to remedy the harmful effects of the instability of export earnings.

Money supply reached the peak of D63.8m. by the end of January 1980. This was below the level of D80.3m. reached at the end of January 1979. The decline was due mainly to the fall in the country's foreign assets and the low groundnut crop of the 1979/80 season. To limit further loss in foreign reserves, government adopted certain austerity measures. The interest rate for lending and depositing in commercial banks was increased. The Central Bank of The Gambia raised its lending rate to banks from 6 — 8 per cent per annum with effect from 15th January, 1980. Commercial banks have followed suit with similar increases in the lending rates to their clients.

The problems of the Gambian economy are still basically that of a one crop country. In order to diversify and alleviate this dependency on a single cash crop, government has introduced cotton cultivation in the Upper River and MacCarthy Island Divisions. The project, financed by the African Development Bank has seen some progress following initial setbacks. The average yields of 907 kilograms per hectare, as well as the overall total production for the year just ended, have been greater than that of the previous year.

Self-sufficiency in rice, the staple diet, is one of the main objectives of the Gambia government. 2234 hectares have been

under irrigated cultivation during this past dry season and it is anticipated that 11,000 tonnes of paddy rice will be harvested as a results. This represents about a third of current imports.

The contribution of the export of fish, lobsters, shrimps and palm kernel, which is one of the country's natural resources with great potential for development, seems to fluctuate. The smoked bonga, which used to dominate exports has now been surpassed by the export of frozen sardinella. The export of shrimps and lobsters have also increased significantly because of the advent of the industrial infrastructures in Banjul, namely the ice plant, cold storage and freezers. Shark fins and bladders are exported to the Far East and United Kingdom. Some cattle are exported to Ghana.

Tourism, which is a major earner of foreign exchange, witnessed a fall during 1979/80 season. A total of 24,821 tourists visited the Gambia compared with 25,907 during 1978/79 season. This has been attributed to a reduction in the number of Scandinavian tourists. However, in order to overcome inadequate accommodation which has been a major constraint, there are plans for additional bed facilities. A total of 3,280 beds would be available by the end of this year when Kombo Beach Hotel, Casino Hotel and Atlantic Hotel extension become operational.

The discovery of one million tons of heavy minerals such as ilmenite, zircon and rutile in Sanyang, Batakunku and Kartong area have so far brought no respite to the country since world prices are still considered too low to make the proposed processing plant for rutile and zircon a viable enterprise.

However, the development of fire bricks for the building industry has reached an advanced stage. A feasibility study on setting up a semi-mechanised fire brick plant has been completed by China.

When this becomes operational it would reduce gross imports of cement, and so a favourable impact on the general trade balance.

The first national plan has been infrastructure-oriented. During the last financial year, projects such as the Soma/Yorroberkunda road project progressed, the Bunnadu/Albreda as well as the Kuang West roads were commenced. Yundum Airport Phase III was completed and the Chinese-sponsored multi-purpose stadium was begun.

The level of employment during 1979 increased considerably as a result of the implementation of development projects. Construction activity has been very productive both in the private and public sectors. Employment level rose by 13 per cent in the private and 8 per cent in the public sectors. Therefore the total number of employees increased by 9 per cent in 1979 when compared with 1978 figures. This has consequently alleviated the unemployment problem.

The expansion of the irrigation system and use of improved farm implements can alleviate dependency on rainfed agriculture and so contribute towards the development of the state of the country's economy, a priority consideration for all sahelian countries now.

Priority is also being given to the construction of the bridge/barrage at the Trans-Gambia crossing. When this is completed, 24,240 hectares of land will be available for cultivation compared with the 2,666 hectares currently being utilized.

If all this irrigated land is available to the farmer, together with the farm implements, the Gambia will be sufficiently equipped to combat the drought and find self-sufficiency in food.

CSO: 4420

MOJA MEMBER DISCUSSES POST-COUP CHANGES

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 pp 2291,2294

[Text] **It is now seven months since President William Tolbert was overthrown by a military coup lead by Master-Sergeant Samuel K. Doe. Several of the initial problems still hold the attention of the ruling People's Redemption Council, including army indiscipline and economic depression. While in the US last month, Professor Amos Sawyer, of the University of Liberia, a leading member of MOJA (the Movement for Justice in Africa) and a former mayoral candidate in Monrovia spoke with *Africa News* about the changes since April.**

Question: It seems that the workings of the People's Redemption Council (PRC) administration are poorly understood. Are the various groups and individuals within the coalition government co-operating successfully?

Answer: The military brought in certain civilian technicians to assist them in getting the job done. The technicians come from various organisational backgrounds, but they did not come to government as organisational representatives with bargaining powers and so forth. So actually we can't really call it a "coalition government."

After the coup and the formation of the government, there was a co-ordination problem for a while, a problem of getting the Cabinet, the various ministries and the PRC all operating within the same terms of reference. Now I think this has improved, following meetings between the Cabinet and the PRC at which some ground rules were laid. There have also been an increased number of Cabinet meetings.

Q: What role does your organisation, MOJA, see itself playing?

A: MOJA's people are in the government. They bring to it not only their skills but a high level of discipline and a set of aspirations that they continue to hold for society. As you well know, ours has been a struggle for social justice, and this means that even within government circles now we continue to plug this point of view. We insist on some degree of economic and political discipline, and we are fighting the tendency to pomposity that could seep into any government if one isn't careful about it. There's something about an office: Once you hold an office and everyone is saying "yes, sir" all the time — it can swell one's head. MOJA keeps ringing the bell all the time.

Q: So even though MOJA has a very definite role in the administrative machinery, it's still keeping up its organising efforts and deals with people in the countryside?

A: MOJA's overtly political activities were suspended when the Constitution was suspended. However, there were other things like the literacy programme and the SUSUKUU agricultural programme — all of these are still going.

Q: Earlier this year, before the coup, you were running for the office of mayor of Monrovia as a MOJA candidate. Is there any prospect for such local elections in the near future?

A: The suspension of the Constitution and political activity means that all elections are indefinitely postponed. I think they will have to wait until the formal return to civilian rule. . . . which is a very necessary step.

Q: Is there any way to predict when that will take place?

A: The idea of 1983 as a target date has been floating around, but all this is unofficial, really. What we are concerned about is that the process leading to civilian rule needs to be well-established. The

constitutional review of the electoral process has to be very carefully looked at. This is one of the contributions we were trying to make with my mayoral campaign.

We have several generations of Liberians who do not know how to vote — who have never experienced it. So we need to look at the entire system, which previously included property clauses and a poorly-monitored process of voter registration.

Q: Turning our attention to the economy, has the general situation improved since the coup?

A: The economy is not in very good shape. As you know, right after the coup, credit lines were frozen. The EEC froze its own co-operative activities with the Liberian government, and many of the bilateral aid doners were moving cautiously. To a larger degree, most of these assistance channels have been unclogged now, but there is still a 'wait and see' approach to the Liberian situation.

I think now the major problem is from the commercial banks. The World Bank has come through, the EEC has come through, and bilateral relationships with West Germany, France, and others all have come unplugged. But the stiff lending conditions of the commercial banks, which affect directly the day-to-day business transactions of merchants and other people, still pose a major hurdle.

Q: Wages have been raised in the civil service and army, and we understand that there is pressure as well for pay increases in the private sector. But what about the people in the countryside? Have they felt any positive changes from the coup?

A: Yes. I think a major development has taken place — the abolition of the hut taxes.

The income level of people in the interior is about $70-74 per year. Out of this money, subsistence farmers were forced to pay something like $10-15 in hut taxes. Also there were other indirect and informal taxes like gifts to officials — for things like alleged development projects that never came through. So you can see that the abolition of the hut taxes makes a significant difference.

In addition, beyond the tax's monetary impact, people were always disturbed [illegible] their farming during the collection p[illegible]. Officials coming through would manha[illegible] people, catch women and tie them up u[illegible] their husbands showed up to pay the tax, etc. The whole quality of rural life was always affected by this tax collection process. Therefore, you see, both socially and economically, it's an improvement.

Q: So you feel that the April coup has laid the basis for real progress throughout Liberian society?

A: The major change is the breaking of a century-old alienation for the masses of the people. If you were in Monrovia now, you would see in spite of the economic crunch that there is an air of liberation. Go to the nightclubs and around the city and you'll see that the common person on the street has a new dignity. In essence this is the major development that cannot be reversed. With this new sense of dignity the people are prepared to work hard to safeguard the revolution and make the sacrifices necessary to move ahead — as long as the leadership is willing to point the way.

Q: What about the criticism that Sergeant Doe and the PRC really haven't brought enough tangible benefits to the people?

A: Let's face it: Doe and the PRC over the last six months have been learning jobs like anyone else. These are sergeants who formed themselves overnight into generals — they didn't come with a ready formula. Secondly, they did not have a clearcut ideological direction. Thirdly, they found themselves saddled with an undisciplined army — the problem of enforcing discipline there has been four or five months in the solving and fortunately now they're putting the tap on it.

So I think the issue of order, of insuring day-to-day survival — economic and otherwise — had been the preoccupation of government. And it is only now, in planning the return to a two-year programme, that the questions of unemployment and the like can be dealt with.

Q: Liberia has been heavily influenced by the Western world in many spheres, and there has also been criticism that this continues unchecked. Will there be any changes in this direction?

A: Not yet. The character of the coup is such that it brings the common man to power, but it has not meaningfully changed the overall orientation of the country in relation to other states or other cultures. The next step is to return to the traditional African culture because, for one thing, the American culture that dominates the society is appreciated, understood and practised only by a small group.

CSO: 4420

MACHEL SEEN SUPPORTING USSR FOREIGN POLICY

Paris LE MONDE in French 25 Nov 80 p 5

[Article by Daniel Vernet]

[Excerpts] Moscow--The Soviet-Mozambique declaration issued on Sunday, 23 November 1980, following Samora Machel's official 1-week visit to the Soviet Union denotes a clear rapprochement between Maputo and Moscow, if not even an adherence by the Mozambican leaders to the Soviet positions. Of course, the USSR and the former Portuguese colony had signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation in 1977. However, Mozambique had, to-date, kept its distance vis-a-vis Soviet policy, notably by maintaining cordial relations with China, a country Machel had visited as recently as 1978. Mozambique had no embassy or a resident ambassador in Moscow until last September.

The rapprochement with the Soviet Union was also expressed through the unreserved support given to Soviet foreign policy.

In regard to Africa, the joint declaration expressed satisfaction about the "deepening anti-imperialist character of the national liberation struggle," but it did not disclose any details about the two principal subjects which apparently were at the core of the conversations between the two delegations: the Zimbabwe and Namibia issues.

The Soviets reportedly asked Machel to serve as their intermediary with Mugabe, whom they had ignored during the struggle for independence, supporting instead his rival Joshua N'Komo.

Machel's visit was marked by the signature of various economic agreements. The USSR will develop "certain priority sectors" of the Mozambican economy. An agreement was signed for the prospection and exploitation of pegmatite ore deposits and another for coal deposits; a third agreement was also signed for the prospection of natural gas and oil, to take effect in 1982. The Soviets will build five agricultural experimental stations. An intergovernmental economic, technical and commercial commission was established. Finally, the USSR will build a floating dock and a floating workshop to repair trawlers of up to 4,500 tons. It will also provide the necessary equipment and a training center.

CSO: 4400

PEOPLE SHOWING DESIRE FOR CHANGE

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 p 2274

[Text]

PRESIDENT SIAKA STEVENS last week returned to Sierra Leone after a most successful official visit to Britain (see page 2305) to find waiting for him some evidence of discontent with his government. This has displayed itself mostly in student protests but is widely thought to be more widely based. One general question that is raised is whether the present political arrangements in Sierra Leone are adequate to deal with discontent among the people about the way they are governed. This is a testing time for the whole theory of the one-party state.

It is a common pattern throughout the world at this time that peoples are displeased with their governments. The big factor is the world-wide recession and inflation. The people of America translated their feeling that President Carter was inadequate to the challenges facing him into a massive electoral victory for President-elect Reagan: they and the world may come to regret this. The people of Jamaica felt that Mr. Michael Manley was not dealing with the economic problems that beset them, and so voted him out of his office of Prime Minister. The people of Britain are on all sides vocally denouncing the economic policies of Mrs. Thatcher and (some of them) dreaming of the days when Mr. Michael Foot might take over. The people of India lost confidence in Mrs. Gandhi and removed her from office after a general election in 1978, and then regained confidence in her and restored her to office. Electorates are fickle and their favours do not necessarily reflect accurately the competence (and certainly not the honour) of the governments involved. But the point of the examples quoted above is that the wishes of the people were able to find expression in the political systems involved and change was brought about without disturbing the fabric of society.

In Nigeria and Ghana new party systems have been going for one year that include the organisation and expression of opposition to the government and which contemplate the possibility of change every four years. Perhaps Sierra Leone can learn from their experience. Change is often desirable in itself. The dictum about "Power corrupts" has

an element of truth, both in the sense that continual and unchallenged power leads to financial chicanery and in the sense that it leads to inefficiency. A new broom is sometimes needed in the best-run households to ensure that piles of dust behind the furniture are dealt with. More important, the possibility of change coming in the future means that present discontents can be sublimated into electoral dreams and political work.

In Sierra Leone desire for change finds itself bottled up. It breaks forth in students stoning the car of Vice-President S. I. Koroma, in clashes with the police before State House (in which the Vice-Chancellor of Fourah Bay College, Professor Arthur Porter, a reportedly unwilling participant in the demonstration, was severely beaten by police), in the burning of cars that brought the Mayor of Freetown and the visiting Lord Mayor of Kingston upon Hull to Fourah Bay, in the formation of opposition parties by Sierra Leoneans overseas (see page 2337), and in much muttering under the breath in closed rooms. Opposition finds open expression in parts of the press, notably the *Tablet*, but that too is threatened by the new Press Bill, which is enacted but not yet enforced.

It is instructive to look back to May, 1978, and see what was said when the one-party system was introduced to Sierra Leone. "We are tired of fighting among ourselves," said President Stevens. "Those willing to work for peace and progress have nothing to fear under the APC government, for the new constitution makes provision for every Sierra Leonean." Dr. Conteh, the Foreign Minister, said the one-party system would put an end to disquiet, coups, counter-coups and martial law. The multi-party system was not suitable for developing countries. "The new constitution will put an end to tribalism, instability and other factional tendencies, and no more will brother rise against brother, or family against family."

The constitution was unable to guarantee that the people would not become discontented with the government and desire a change. Certain changes do and have taken place: the Minister of Finance was retired and a new candidate introduced, the Minster of Information was moved and the Vice-Presidents were shuffled. But this has not amounted to a change in direction. President Stevens has hinted that he may retire after his year as OAU Chairman, which would obviously mean major changes. He has refused to speculate on a successor, saying this would be presumptuous and improper. What would be proper would be to ensure that a method of succession was made clear — that the people were allowed some choice.

There is nothing treasonable about a wish for change. Patriotic, honourable men may differ on the best way to deal with economic malaise, the right priorities for educational expenditure, whether to invest more in new forms of diamond extraction, the importance of foreign policy, and much else. It is dangerous not to have a political system that recognises this.

CSO: 4420

UNCERTAINTY MARS FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

London WEST AFRICA in English 17 Nov 80 pp 2277-2278

[Text] ANYONE FAMILIAR with the distinguished academic traditions of Fourah Bay College (which with Njala University College constitutes the University of Sierra Leone) would have found the report of an exodus of academic staff from what was in former times regarded as the 'Athens of West Africa' depressing (*West Africa*, October 13). The recent decision by these well-established non-expatriate academics to 'vote with their feet' is but another chapter in the long sad tale of the decline of standards at the university in recent years.

During the last six or seven years several academics have opted to leave rather than work under the intolerable conditions created by an ever increasing and menacing political control over the university. The exodus has led to a situation in which several faculties are now seriously understaffed while student numbers have been on the increase. This situation has now reached crisis proportions and the beginning of the current academic year in October saw university authorities searching frantically for possible recruits to fill the empty faculty offices. But what are the issues behind the crisis?

Low salaries and poor research facilities for academics, overcrowded classrooms and frequent breakdowns in basic services such as water and electricity on the campuses lie at the heart of the matter. At root therefore the problem is over government financial support for the university. The present regime has not proved as generous to the university as it has been to the army for instance or to the OAU, whose annual summit meeting it hosted in July at great expense.

Through the governing body of the university, the Court, the government exercises direct control over university policy. The president himself is the Chancellor and his is not merely a ceremonial role. Fourah Bay College with a tradition of questioning the policies and even the legitimacy of the nation's rulers (remember Albert Margai and the FBC dons in 1966/7 or the clash between the dons and the military rulers in 1968 or witness the role of the university in the vanguard of the opposition movement to the present regime) has understandably not ranked high in the government's conception of its financial priorities.

To arrest this tradition of critical thought, the regime has since it came into power in 1968 made it its strategy to 'incorporate' established and well respected dons into the ruling establishment. Several have been offered ambassadorships in key capitals. Others have been offered lucrative appointments in government or parastatal agencies. For those who have resisted 'incorporation' and have remained on the campuses, (or as one academic bluntly put it, those who have refused to 'lick arse') academic work has simply been made unrewarding. The low salaries and unsatisfactory conditions have had the net effect of weakening university faculties. The shortage of experienced personnel and money has led to the 'death' of some of the more respectable journals, such as *Sierra Leone Studies* and the *Geographical Society Journal*, which once linked the university to the global system of learning and research through its role as a vehicle of expression for academics and other writers in Sierra Leone.

Things have not stopped there. The regime has proved itself reluctant to finance the research of post graduate students, particularly in Arts and Social Science subjects which are regarded as the tools of

critical activity. This contrasts with the opportunities for training and research in medicine, the agricultural sciences or the natural sciences. This policy hides behind rationalisations in terms of 'education relevant to the nation's basic needs'. The weekly programme, *Forum*, in which dons had the opportunity to discuss current issues and trends on national radio and television has been 'watered down' to a weak version of what it used to be. Now chaired by one of the regime's leading media men, it is noted for handpicking those academics or members of the general public who could be relied on to sing the government's praises.

The critical newspaper, the *Tablet*, itself the creation of some former FBC students who took a leading part in the 1977 demonstrations against the regime, is known to receive covert support from the dons and have become their mouthpiece. The rapid decline in the quality of Sierra Leone newspapers since 1968, for long lamented by this magazine, is indicative of the suppression of intellectual activity.

An expatriate academic at FBC recently remarked that the campus has become the sort of place a 'spent' academic might want to retire to. Contempt for the Vice-Chancellor and the Principals of the two constituent colleges on the campuses is high. They are increasingly regarded as the men who have collaborated or have appeared to have collaborated in the policies which have brought about the decline of what was once a distinguished power house of learning and research.

Meanwhile the exodus continues unabated. Nigeria, particularly, has become a favourite haven for Sierra Leonean dons because of the exciting opportunities which it offers at the present time. What then are the implications for the future of higher education in Sierra Leone? In the short term, it has created the pressing problem of an acute shortage of staff in the university faculties, which has inevitably led to a lowering of standards. At a time when other African universities are putting a lot of energy into indicative planning to reduce their dependency on the metropolitan centres, the present crisis is resoundingly ironic. It is the local university more than any outside institution which is best placed to study and assess the trends and developments in the society.

More immediately too, the tension between the regime and the university can only be exacerbated. The recent humiliation of the Mayor of Freetown on the campus of FBC by the burning of the cars in her motorcade (*West Africa*, November 1) indicates that there exists a virtual state of war between university students and the regime stemming from the frustrations which have been generated in an era of rising expectations.

In the longer term it is obvious that a hideous uncertainty hovers over the future of higher education in Sierra Leone. The Vice Chancellor, Professor Arthur Porter and the Principals of the two colleges, Professors Kamara and Eldred Jones are talented and resourceful men. They may not want to be remembered by a generation of Sierra Leoneans as the men who presided over the present state of affairs. They have considerable influence. It may not be too late to act. Action more than the 25 per cent salary increase of university staff which was recently announced is needed.

There was a running battle in Freetown on November 6 between police and students of Fourah Bay College, who had kidnapped the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Arthur Porter, and forced him to lead a demonstration from the college campus to State House.

The students were confronted by the Police who fired tear gas into the students, and arrested some of them, including Professor Porter, who was manhandled and taken to the Central Police station. Professor Porter was released when it was discovered that he had been made to lead the demonstration under duress.

The students were demonstrating against the lack of lectures because lecturers have been on strike since the end of October. Despite several meetings between the representatives of the Senior Staff Association of the University, and the government, led by Acting President, S. I. Koroma, there did not seem to be an end in sight to the strike.

The Government issued the following statement after the demonstration:

> Events leading to a sitdown strike in the University of Sierra Leone on the 26th of October 1980, reached a climax today the 6th of November when students of Fourah Bay College, led by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, apparently under duress, decided to march down to State House and other parts of the city in protest against the lecturers who were being asked by the students to resume lectures. Prior to this incident, a series of meetings between the Acting President and Senior Cabinet Ministers on the one hand, and members of the Senior Staff Association and

the University Administration on the other, were held in the office of the President in order to iron out points of this agreement, while consideration is being given to the conditions of service of the Staff of the university.

At one stage members of the association, during discussions, requested transportation to Njala University and back, in order to consult with their counterparts at Njala College. This exercise was repeated a number of times without reaching a conclusion. Although the Acting President assisted by the Acting First Vice-President, the Acting Second Vice-President, the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice and the Minister of Education, had gone a great way towards appeasing senior staff members, the appeal appears to have fallen on deaf ears.

On the eve of Wednesday the 5th of November, a State House bus was sent to Njala at the request of the representatives of the Senior Staff Association so that it could travel overnight to collect staff and bring them down for a meeting which was scheduled to be held at State House at 1.30 pm today. Regrettably, the bus driver was physically attacked by the students at the Njala campus before they seized the bus and set it on fire. In addition to this unfortunate incident, four Police vehicles are reported to have been damaged beyond repair.

It will be recalled that prior to the submission of the university's request for the revision of salaries and conditions of service, other institutions in the public sector, such as the Judiciary, the Civil Service and the Medical and dental etc, had applied for salary increases and revision of conditions of service as far back as 1968. The insistence therefore of the senior staff of the University of Sierra Leone, that consideration of their request should be given priority over and above others, submitted before theirs, is without justification, bearing in mind that while they were advocating for improved conditions of service, a sub-committee of Cabinet was already meeting to consider their request together with others. Before he left [on an official visit to Britain] His Excellency President Stevens had given written assurances that the conditions of the service of the university staff would be looked into, and the matter concluded by the end of November 1980.

At today's meeting, to which members of the Senior Staff Association were invited, the Hon. Attorney-General and Pro-Chancellor, launched a final appeal which was endorsed by the Hon. Minister of Education for the lecturers to resume work on the strength of the assurances given them by senior members of Cabinet. It is hoped that his final appeal will be heeded by members of the Senior Staff Association.

The National Union of Sierra Leone Students (NUSS) issued the following statement on November 7, the day after the demonstration during which Professor Porter was arrested.

The Interim Committee of the National Union of Sierra Leone Students (NUSS) condemns with vigour, the savage brutality perpetrated by the national police force on the Vice-Chancellor of the University and Students of Fourah Bay College during a peaceful match to the State House yesterday, November 6, 1980 to solicit Government's assistance in getting Lecturers of the University back to work.

The presence of the Vice-Chancellor was enough indication of the good intentions of the students, which the Police chose to ignore in their anxiety to brutalise them. It is significant to note that armed Police personnel have been camping at the foot of the Fourah Bay College Mount Aureol since October 24, 1980.

Reports reaching us indicate that about 15 students of Fourah Bay College have been detained at Pademba Road prison and subjected to torture and flogging.

We view this development with exceptional seriousness and repugnance, especially in the light of frequent Police intervention in College campuses throughout the country. Fourah Bay College in January, 1977; Njala University College in March, 1980, Bunumbu in April, 1980 etc. The brutality of the security forces is still fresh in our minds.

While we eschew violence of any kind and from anywhere, there can be no justification for the over-reaction of security forces to an otherwise peaceful march creating an unstable situation among the already suffering masses.

We view the present disenchantment of young people as a direct result of the disparities inherent in our neo-colonial and selfish society but it is impossible to solve basic social problems by totalitarian measures.

The time has long past when partial, half-hearted reforms designed to solve individual problems of the moment and affecting only discrete parts of the functions and institutions of society, can respond to the whole of the turbulent stream of social transformations. Historical evidence is abundant to indicate that these problems can be solved only through broad-based, comprehensive, long-term programmes galvanising the people into determined, well-directed action.

Transformations of societies to benefit the broad masses of the people inevitably involve conflicts and confrontations and we call on the Government to recognise this reality.

We call for the immediate and unconditional release of the detained students.

In our authentic struggle for democracy and social progress, no menace, no brutality, will make us waver.

CSO: 4420

COMMENTARY ON U.S. ELECTION, CARTER AID PROMISE GIVEN

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 6 Nov 80 p 6

[Editorials]

[Text] America's Choice

The American people have delivered a resounding verdict in favour of conservatism.

Not only have they put Ronald Reagan high and dry into the White House: they have kicked out a number of leading liberal Democrats from the Senate and in the House of Representatives the Democrats only narrowly retained control.

It is a result that has made the professional pollsters look a bit silly and it will undoubtedly cause shock waves in some parts of the world.

Yet is Mr Reagan really the wild man he has been made out to be? He has certainly said some pretty wild things.

But most politicians find that the responsibilities and realities of office have a moderating effect on them. And there is no doubt that the President-elect has the capacity for moderation and good management. He proved this when he was Governor of California.

That being so, is there any reason why he should suddenly turn into a nuclear gunman who confuses brinkmanship with leadership when he becomes chairman of the Capitol Hill board in January?

Conservatism is, of course, something of a dirty word in many parts of Africa.

Yet it was the British Conservatives who brought peace to this country. And it was a Republican Secretary of State, Dr Kissinger, who broke the logjam and made progress towards majority rule here possible.

Carter's Aid Promise

Mr Reagan has not so far had much to say about Africa in general and Zimbabwe in particular.

Dr Chidzero has already raised the question of the substantial amount of aid that President Carter privately promised Mr Mugabe when he visited Washington in August. Will Mr Reagan feel obliged to honour that promise?

There must be hope that he will, even if he does so only as a form of financial confrontation with the Soviet Union. And with his conservative support he could undoubtedly gain Congress's approval far more easily than could Mr Carter.

Even Mr Reagan's policy towards South Africa could prove to be more constructive and productive than that of his predecessor.

Mr Reagan will almost certainly want to see meaningful change in that country. And he is better placed to apply quiet pressure to bring it about, for his is the party of big business.

The South Africans must also know that in Mr Reagan lies their best chance of achieving peaceful change and respectability. They are unlikely to get a better deal from any other President.

To achieve all this, Mr Reagan will have to display strong, positive and fair leadership. These are, of course, the qualities the American people expect to see in their President. We can only pray that he will not let them, and the world, down.

CSO: 4420

REPORTAGE ON LOCAL ELECTIONS

Polls Changed in Salisbury and Bulawayo

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 4

[Text] Tomorrow is polling day in all the major cities and towns in Zimbabwe for the local government elections.

In Salisbury and Bulawayo, however, elections will be held only in the former municipal areas, after it was announced last week that the polls had been postponed indefinitely in the former townships.

In Salisbury, where eight of the 13 former municipal wards are being contested, five were returned to the city council unopposed.

They are the Mayor, Councillor Jack Wrixon (Avondale and Gun Hill), Dr Arthur Wilkins (Avondale), Mr John Atcheson (Marlborough), Mr Clive Pusey (Borrowdale) and Mr Frank Mills (commercial and industrial area).

Six serving councillors have not stood for re-election. There are 22 candidates for the eight wards.

In Ward 3 (Mount Pleasant) there will be a four-way battle between three serving councillors — Mr John Wrist, Mr Cornelius Knaggs and Mrs Susan Colquhoun — and Dr Abre Palley, a medical practitioner and political activist.

Mrs Colquhoun said yesterday women had a great deal to contribute in the new councils.

"Remember that women are the home-builders," she said. "They run the homes and budget. The woman is fiercely territorial. She will protect what is here."

Mrs Colquhoun said democracy would be one of the most important elements of the new council. "Otherwise, you might just as well have a political commissariat."

Dr Palley said yesterday he saw a great future for Salisbury. It would develop into an international venue for conferences and gatherings, particularly in the fields of economics, culture and sport.

"For this development the incoming council will have to co-operate fully with the Government," he said. "There is bound to be a ZANU (PF) majority in the council reflecting the position in the country and this will make co-operation with the central Government easier."

Standing

Polling in this ward will take place at the Mount Pleasant Hall and the Baden Powell Scout Hall, Borrowdale Shopping Centre.

Elections start at 7 a.m. and close at 6.30 p.m. in all wards.

In Ward 4 (Highlands) serving councillor Dr Timothy Stamps is standing against Mr Lovemore Mhango, a politician and businessman. Mr Mhango is the UANC's national organising secretary and a former government chief whip.

"There is a third candidate in Ward 4," Councillor Stamps said yesterday. "He is Mr A. Pathy. When people have finished their shopping on a Saturday afternoon and goes for a swim, they will be too tired to go and vote."

Mr Mhango said he stood for the total exclusion of party politics from civic affairs and solely for the interests of the people in his ward.

His election victory in a predominantly white ward would be a victory for the country's national policy of reconciliation, he said.

He is not running on a UANC ticket.

Highlands voters will poll at Highlands District

Office and Radco Power Scout Hall, Borrowdale Shopping Centre.

Two serving councillors are the candidates in Greendale (Ward 5). They are Mr John Evans, the sitting councillor and Mr Sam Levy. Polling will be at Greendale District Office and St Luke's Church Hall, Rhodesville.

Mr Evans warned yesterday that free expression of divergent opinions could be lost in a multi-

all political and government environment.

Some years ago the Rhodesian Front tried this and it was a dismal failure," he said.

He appreciated that ZANU (PF) had advocated this action but he believed that if the individualism which had sensibly prevailed in the council for so long was allowed to continue it would be in the best interests of all people.

Coloureds Angry at Venue Change

MEMBERS of the Coloured community last night strongly protested against the decision by the Salisbury City Council to transfer the polling booth for Ward 7 from Arcadia Community Centre to Braeside Scouts Hall and Rhodesville.

One of the candidates for the ward, Mrs Elaine Raftopoulos, told a campaign meeting in Arcadia that the council's decision was "the height of manipulation" designed to further the chances of her rival, Mr Ivor Pitch.

She alleged that some people in the council wanted to see the return

tion of Mr Pitch. "Reject this decision against us."

A statement issued by the Arcadia or Mantega, Sunningdale and Ardbennie Residents' Association said:

"We would like it to be known that we are disappointed that the venue (for the elections) which we have used for the past 27 years has been suddenly removed."

The statement added that despite the distance "we shall all go and vote."

No comment from the council was available last night.

Big Turnout

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

VOTERS throughout Zimbabwe went to the polls in their tens of thousands yesterday to show that they thought the local government elections were important.

Voter turnout in some wards was more than double the usual 20-30 percent.

The elections were generally trouble-free.

The few reports of incidents included allegations of intimidation at Hartley and a man trying to impersonate someone else to vote.

In Salisbury Dr Timothy Stamps who was re-elected to Salisbury's Highlands Ward 4 complained yesterday that several long-time residents had been accidentally disenfranchised.

He said he had received about a dozen reports.

"The trouble is that not all those on last year's voters' roll were transferred to the new roll."

He said the mix-up was probably caused by election officers being "over-extended" trying to draw up rolls for the townships.

Blacks sang and danced as they formed massive queues outside polling booths.

And fears that whites would stay away proved unfounded when they went to vote in droves.

Finance Minister Chancellor Mark Phillips said: "They realised that they need good representation on the council."

Candidates set up supporters' benches outside the booths to try to capture the backing of floating voters.

Voting in most former white municipal areas ended last night at 6.00 after 11½ hours of polling.

But polling remains in the former townships continues today because of the large number of voters.

Nearly all the candidates in the municipal wards stood as independents — but most township candidates fought on party tickets.

The elections in the Salisbury and Bulawayo local government areas have been postponed because of political violence.

Election fever in Bulawayo was dampened by a torrential downpour of rain in the afternoon. But voting was still heavy.

The highest polling stations were in ward 6, which was contested by the controversial Mayor Councillor Miss Constantinides and long-serving councillor Mrs Ronay Scott.

Councillor Constantinides estimated that candidates for the four eastern seats had spent up to $1 000 each on campaigning.

Elections for the 18 western seats have been postponed because of political violence.

The Patriotic Front claimed yesterday afternoon that intimidation by ZANU (PF) was rife in Hartley, where voting continues today.

Party official Mr Gordon Amanga, who is standing in Ward 5, said voters had been threatened with violence if they didn't support the ruling party.

"I've personally heard people threatened. It's not a free election in Hartley."

He said he had lodged a complaint with the town clerk.

The turnout was very heavy in the townships of Gwelo, Que Que and Redcliff.

Elections in all wards in Que Que, Fort Victoria, Redcliff and Selukwe finished last night.

In Gwelo, which now has 32 000 registered voters, voting in former municipal wards closed yesterday.

GATOOMA

Ward 9—Virendra Patel (unopposed). Ward 10 Elected—Alderman Chhaganlal Bhana (291); Mrs Lita Angles (214). Mr Carl Flemmich (152) unsuccessful—Mr Peter Bennet (67).

ZANU (PF) Victories

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 83 p 1

[Text]

GWELO.

ZANU (PF) gained effective majorities in Fort Victoria, Que Que and Selukwe in the weekend's municipal elections.

The exception was Redcliff, which now has five white councillors and three black — two of them ZANU (PF) and one PF.

The elections in all wards were completed in Que Que, Fort Victoria, Redcliff and Selukwe on Saturday. Gwelo's elections in the former local government areas continued until 6 p.m. yesterday.

Saturday's elections in the former municipal areas of Umvuma resulted in an overwhelming win in both wards for the ZANU (PF) candidates, all six of whom were returned to office for four years.

The present mayor, Councillor Roy Parker, topped the poll with 614 votes. Former mayor, Councillor Ken Langford, came second with 502 and Councillor Ken Wilcox was third with 491.

The counting of votes in wards 3 to 12 did not start until after 6 p.m. yesterday.

Ward 4 in Que Que was won by Mr C. Mpofu of ZANU (PF), and that by Mr P. Moonsamy, PF, as previously reported.

The new council will consist of eight black members, ZANU (PF) and one PF—and four whites.

● ZANU (PF) won all the African seats in the wards representing the two former African townships of Selukwe and Insukamini.

In Wards 1 and 2, representing Selukwe, the successful candidates were Mr Stanley Mnaka (who won by more than 1 000 votes) and Mr Davidson Jaure. In Wards 6, 7 and 8 representing Insukamini, elected were Mr Joseph Mhonweyapi, Miss Maria Nyatsambo and Dr Godwin Gwisai.

The results in Ward 9 (the city residential area and Weirmouth and Fern Valley) were declared last night. The three retiring councillors — Mr Max Philipps, Alderman Doug Reed and Mr Ray Truscott — were elected.

In Wards 1, 4, 5 and 10 there was no election. The nine candidates were returned unopposed.

MARANDELLAS

Ward 1 Elected — A P Mvudzi (415), unsuccessful — F B Nyathi (26).

Ward 2 Elected — S M Mukwindo (443), unsuccessful — L T Mukandidze (69).

Ward 3 Elected — M I. Shumirwa (302), unsuccessful — E N Magwa (91).

Ward 4: Elected — T K. Muronda (307); unsuccessful — C. M. Makoni (28), C. Zimunya (23).

Ward 5: Elected — P. Karimanzira (262); unsuccessful — A. Z. Mutsaranji (19), W. T. Chibanda (12).

Ward 6: Elected — A. Chiperera (309); unsuccessful — D. X. Nyandoro (23).

Ward 7: Elected — P. Mlambo (497); unsuccessful — M. N. Gobunduku.

Ward 8: Elected — N. M. Mangwandhu (509); unsuccessful — C. Ndhlovu (22).

Ward 9: Elected — K. J. Karuchera (342); unsuccessful — G. C. Mubvumbi.

SELUKWE

Ward 1: T. Booth, R. J. Calder. Ward 2 — N. D. Gocha (ZANU-PF). Ward 3 — H. Rushwaya (ZANU-PF).

Ward 4 — Mrs S. Rushwaya (ZANU-PF). Ward 5 — J. Matzira (ZANU - PF — unopposed).

Ward 6 — C. Murove (ZANU-PF). Ward 7 — N. S. Mugabe (ZANU-PF).

In yesterday's Sunday Mail, it was incorrectly reported that Alderman Chiagun Bhasa was elected for Ward 10 of Gatooma. This should have been Alderman Chiagun Bhasa Kidia.

CSO: 4420

ZIMBABWE TEAM TO MAPUTO TALKS NAMED

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 3

[Text]

A TEAM of six Cabinet Ministers to represent Zimbabwe at this week's Southern African Development co-ordination Conference in Maputo was named yesterday.

Delegates from the nine African participating nations will hold a ministerial meeting before launching into a two-day-long "donor's aid" conference.

The nine nations have invited foreign governments, international organisations and banks to the conference to seek finance allowing them to cut their economic dependence on South Africa.

At "an economic summit in Lusaka in March it was stressed that transport and communications were the key sectors of co-operation among the nations affected.

The Zimbabwe delegates include the Minister of Economic Planning and Development, Dr Bernard Chidzero; the Minister of Roads and Road Traffic, Posts and Telecommunications, Mr George Silundika, the Minister of Transport and Power, Mr Ernest Kadungure, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr David Smith, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr Simbi Maroni and the Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr Oliver Munyaradzi.

They leave for Maputo by special charter flight on Tuesday.

A team of top Government officials left Salisbury last night to help pave the way for the delegation's arrival.

It included the Deputy Secretary for Economic Planning and Development, Mr G. E. P. Mellier; Under-Secretary, Mr C. N. C. Mangwana; Deputy Chief Engineer (planning), Engineer P. C. Simpson; Deputy Secretary of Roads, Dr Nzuwah; Under-Secretary for Transport and Power, Mr C. John; Under-Secretary for Commerce and Industry, Mr D. Field; Director of Veterinary Services, Mr A. Wilson; Chief Agricultural Economist, Mr W. V. Lacey, and Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr M. S. Kajese.

They were accompanied by the Zimbabwean Ambassador to Mozambique, Mr John Mbvundura.

The team returns to Salisbury on Saturday.

CSO: 4420

REPORTAGE ON POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

Appointments 'Cancelled'

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Why Russia Has No Ties--Muzenda

THERE were no special considerations delaying the establishment of diplomatic relations between Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Simon Muzenda, said yesterday.

Replying to questions in an interview, Mr Muzenda said he had repeated several times that Zimbabwe's foreign policy was one of non-alignment.

"What it means is that people who come to ask for diplomatic relations with us have to agree with this Government on a number of (aspects) of our relationship with them."

The Minister attributed the delay in setting up diplomatic links with Moscow to last-minute business engagements that led to the cancellation of appointments in Salisbury with Soviet envoys.

During the independence celebrations, he explained, a meeting had been arranged at a hotel between the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, and himself and the Soviet delegation.

"When I went to Meikles Hotel to find out whether they were ready to meet — the Prime Minister had taken another delegation to the airport — we found they had left.

"Later they sent someone from Lusaka to come and discuss with us the papers they had left and arrangements were made for him to meet me here (in the Minister's office).

"He came, but as he entered the door and we were about to sit down, I got an urgent call from the Prime Minister that he wanted to see me immediately. When I returned he had gone," said Mr Muzenda.

He denied the two countries could not agree on the conditions for mutual diplomatic relations, saying the Zimbabwe Government was not laying down any special conditions for the relationship.

Asked if the Soviet Union would be required to renounce political and diplomatic support for ZAPU when the two countries get down to discussing the nature of their relations, the Minister said:

"I think your question is a little disturbing. It also suggests in my mind that you are saying if we open diplomatic relations with a country, it should still give military support to a party within that country."

A country had only one government and the military set-up of any country belonged to that government. It did not belong to any party, he stressed.

USSR Seeks Cooperation

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

THE Soviet Union stopped material assistance to ZAPU after the struggle for liberation and was now seeking co-operation with the Zimbabwean Government, the Soviet Ambassador to Zambia, Dr Vasili Solodovnikov, said in Salisbury yesterday.

Interviewed after a week of talks with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the envoy said his country now had only a political relationship with Dr Joshua Nkomo's party.

Dr Solodovnikov said Moscow now wanted to establish relations with the Zimbabwe Government.

Asked if there was a desire to extend the relationship to political party level, he replied: "Yes, you may say it is our wish to have relations with both parties — ZAPU and ZANU."

The envoy was asked what Moscow's position would be in the event of a civil war in Zimbabwe. "I hope it will not happen," he said, "because, I think, the future of Zimbabwe is in the unity of the people.

"It would be very sad if it occurred and I think it would be a big advantage for the imperialists, especially South Africa."

Dr Solodovnikov, who arrived on Tuesday and is due to return to Lusaka today, said he had come to discuss establishing diplomatic relations between his country and Zimbabwe.

But he had not managed to meet the Foreign Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda. He only had meetings with civil servants in the Ministry, he said.

He described the talks as "very good, very honest and very fruitful", but said there were still some points to be ironed out.

Saying he believed relations would be established soon, the envoy indicated he might visit Salisbury again after consulting his Government.

He said he believed that "imperialist countries" were trying to keep the Soviet Union out of Zimbabwe.

However, in the talks this week, Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union had concluded there were many international issues on which they held identical views and had "practically agreed to establish relations".

Dr Solodovnikov said he was an academic attached for many years to the Soviet Academy of Science.

He is a father of two daughters and has five grandchildren.

CSO: 4420

REPORTAGE ON LABOR STRIKES, UNION ACTIONS

Order Ignored by 4000

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

ABOUT 4 000 striking pitmen at Wankie Colliery last night ignored an order by the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kangai, to return to work by 10 p.m. or face "tough measures" to protect other workers.

Only 10 workers reported for night shift at No. 2 Colliery — the same number as every night since the strike began.

Late last night there had been no reports of any further violence among the strikers.

Telephone talks were held in the day between Mr Kangai in Salisbury and workers' committee officers at Wankie.

The Minister said he was prepared to visit Wankie today as originally planned, but only if the strikers returned to work.

If they did not return, Mr Kangai said, "tough measures" would be taken to protect those who wanted to work.

Superintendent John Joss, officer in charge of the Wankie police, confirmed last night that extra police patrols would be mounted in the colliery villages.

Mr Kangai said there would be police protection for individuals who wanted to work and for their homes and property.

The Minister's message was relayed to the workers at mass meetings held in the three colliery villages yesterday evening.

At the No. 2 Colliery village, a crowd of more than 300 — about one-sixth of the total workforce in the village — jeered loudly at much of the announcement and streamed off in disgust before the workers' committee chairman — had finished speaking.

Soon afterwards, hundreds of copies of a full-page typed statement from Mr Kangai's Ministry were dropped from a helicopter.

The statement assured the strikers that the Minister was sympathetic to them and had intervened to the best of his ability to meet their wishes.

'Patience'

Mr Kangai repeated his call for people at Wankie to be patient about the pension and benefit funds, which they want terminated and contributions refunded.

It would take some time for the Government's pension policy to be worked out, the statement said.

"Minister Kangai wishes to emphasise that, until the law is altered, Wankie management cannot stop making the deductions from your wages in respect of the pension and benefit funds because they are prohibited from doing so by legislation," the statement said.

Later many workers maintained that Mr Kangai had set a date for the termination of their pension and benefit funds contributions and that he was now going back on his word.

Superintendent Joss said that "some arrests" were made during the day in connection with violence at No. 2 Colliery on Monday night.

In addition three people were arrested on Tuesday night when a house in No. 1 Colliery was damaged.

The strike is already making its effects felt on the National Railways of Zimbabwe, which announced yesterday that it had "been forced to reduce some services on certain routes."

A NRZ spokesman in Salisbury said the present daily rate of coal use in locomotives of 600 tonnes had to be cut.

Enough

The railways had enough coal to continue essential services on the north section of the line.

"However, a large proportion of the stocks carried are on the ground at Bulawayo and Gwelo and it will soon be necessary to reload wagons to supply Dett and Thompson Junction itself," he said.

Risco steelworks has enough stocks to last for another week.

"Should the strike extend beyond that we will be in a difficult position," said a spokesman.

The Minister of Transport and Power, Mr Ernest Kadungure, said he had no immediate plans to introduce emergency measures until after a week.

"Maybe it will be necessary to institute such measures if the strike stretches beyond tomorrow," he said.

Ultimatum Ignored, Strikers Arrested

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 2

[Text]

NEGOTIATIONS between the 4 000 strikers at Wankie Colliery and the Government have reached deadlock.

Mr Kumbirai Kangai, Minister of Labour and Social Services, has issued an ultimatum that "tough action" will be taken against those who do not return to work.

But the response yesterday to the call was nil.

About 10 workers from the colliery villages are still helping to keep the vital coke ovens burning at No. 2 colliery, and about 75 percent of workers are reporting for their shifts at the No. 1 colliery power station.

But coal production has been at a complete halt for six days.

The three main colliery villages were quiet throughout yesterday. Police Support Unit patrols reported for their second night's duty in the evening.

The strikers still say they are waiting for Mr Kangai to make the next move. Speculation is rife as to what "tough action" the Minister will take to resolve the situation.

But reliable sources have suggested Mr Kangai himself may, after all, visit the colliery and attempt to explain why he cannot get the workers their pension and benefit fund money.

He declined to comment yesterday.

Trojan Strike Pickets Held

THREE employees of Trojan Nickel Mine, which has been paralysed by a strike since Saturday, have been arrested.

A police spokesman in Salisbury said yesterday the men arrested on Tuesday, would appear in court on a charge of obstructing traffic, an offence under the Miscellaneous Offences Act.

It is believed the men, who were arrested outside the mine, were pickets who stopped cars of employees still working.

Meanwhile, a bid to end the dispute — over the dismissal of a member of the workers' committee — failed yesterday.

Mr Howard Bloomfield, the president of the Associated Mineworkers' Union, said an inquiry into the man's dismissal was held before the mine manager in terms of the "code of discipline" agreement between the management and the union.

"However, there was no re-instatement as a result of the inquiry and the strike goes on," said Mr Bloomfield.

Trojan produces more than 1 000 tonnes a month of the world's purest nickel. Most of it is exported. Nickel is selling at about £2 650 a tonne.

The smelter and refinery are ticking over and once the dispute is settled they could quickly go back into production at an increased rate to make up losses caused by the strike.

● The work stoppage by 90-odd ice cream vendors at Lyons Brooke Bond in Bulawayo entered its fourth day yesterday, reports the Herald's Correspondent.

A company spokesman said: "The men are self-employed and if they choose not to work there is nothing we can do about it."

At Shangani nickel mine, where 800 workers have been on strike since Monday, the situation was also unchanged yesterday. It is believed the men want an all-round increase of $40 a month.

About 300 workers returned to their jobs at Consolidated Textiles, Bulawayo yesterday.

Legal Action Planned, Industry Hurt

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 80 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, said last night he would have "no alternative" but to take legal action against those promoting the illegal strike at Wankie Colliery.

It was obvious that the vast majority of workers, who he had reason to believe wanted to return to work, were still being intimidated to stay at home.

He would have no alternative but to ask the police to apprehend and prosecute, in terms of the Industrial Conciliation Act, those who were promoting the illegal strike.

He again called on workers to use normal channels to air grievances.

The Government was concerned with legitimate grievances, but it could not be held to ransom, as was the case in Wankie, he said.

Illegal strikes, particularly in key industries, were harmful to the whole nation, he said, and the Government was determined to take firm action to end them.

Mr Kangai said he hoped his warning that Government's patience was exhausted would be heeded and that this form of industrial action would now cease.

At Wankie yesterday, there was no sign that the 4 000 striking miners intended to return to work.

There have been no reports of violence for more than 48 hours in the colliery villages. The strikers were passed their time in the beer gardens or at their homes.

Police support unit patrols were seen for the first time yesterday, but the atmosphere was calm enough for a football match between local police and the support unit.

The only serious violence was on Monday night when about 50 houses at No. 2 Colliery village had windows broken and two people were later arrested.

Superintendent John Joss, acting member in charge of Wankie Police, said that intimidation was not widespread and that the strike was in no way political.

Mr Kenneth Ncube, workers' committee chairman of No. 3 Colliery, said yesterday he did not know of a single man who wanted to go back to work.

"They are not striking against the Government. They are striking for their money. This has not been a political strike," he said.

Dunlop Zimbabwe chairman Mr Gordon Handover said in Bulawayo yesterday his company's stocks of coal would last only a few days. "When those supplies are finished, then that's it. We will probably have to cease production."

National Breweries in Bulawayo will be able to operate for a few weeks before the lack of coal will stop production.

Strikes Hurt Industry

BULAWAYO.

THE Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries was gravely concerned at the continuing labour strikes in the country, the president, Mr Reg Sampson, said here yesterday.

"They are undoubtedly adversely affecting the economic recovery of the country to which industry gives the major momentum."

However, the CZI was encouraged by clarifications given to industry by the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, and the firm action he was taking to correct the situation, Mr Sampson said.

Meanwhile, about 1 000 mineworkers are still on strike at Shangani Nickel Mine. This was confirmed by a spokesman for the mine's parent organisation, the Anglo-American Corporation. He would give no other details. The strike started on Monday.

A Government industrial relations officer, Mr Peter Cowan, said: "The mine management has explained to the strikers that as the mine is running at a loss, there will be no pay rises.

"Wages will be in accordance with the regulations, as in the past. This message was given to the men on a directive from the company's head office."

The men were asking for a rations allowance and for night-work pay, but they were already getting these, Mr Cowan said. Payment in lieu of rations was incorporated into their wages in June, in negotiations conducted through the industrial council.

They were demanding an additional $40 a month each.

"We are sending an official to the mine on Monday to explain these things to them, and to tell them that while they are on strike they will not be paid at all."

The 92 striking ice-cream vendors of Lyons Brooke Bond (Pvt.) Ltd in Bulawayo have had their contracts cancelled. The company has closed its vendor service.

In a statement, a spokesman said: "It is hoped that in the future new self-employed distributors will be available, and productivity renewed.

"The sooner we can commence normal trading the happier we will be."

The issue of whether the vendors are company employees, as they claim, and should receive the minimum wage, or whether they are self-employed contractors, is to be the subject of a test case in Bulawayo Magistrates' Court in February.

● Ziana reports that a strike is still on at Trojan Nickel Mine, Bindura, where about 2 000 workers have stopped work since Thursday.

Union Leaders Targeted

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 pp 3, 12

[Text]

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to topple Zimbabwe's three best-known trade union leaders.

The action is all part of the bitter struggle for the heart and soul of the labour movement.

The union leaders under attack are:

● Mr Howard Bloomfield, president of the Associated Mineworkers' Union and the Trades Union Congress of Zimbabwe.

● Mr Phineas Sithole, general secretary of the United Textile Workers' Union, president of the African Trade Union Congress and national chairman of ZANU.

● Mr David Chimusoro, general secretary of the General Engineering and Metal Workers' Union.

Mr Bloomfield is accused by a newly-formed rival union, the Zimbabwe Mineworkers' Union, of failing to represent the miners.

Mr Webster Gwekwerere, a ZANU (PF) activist, who is acting president of the new union, said: "Mr Bloomfield has only 16 000 members among 170 000 miners — that's less than 10 percent.

"He can't claim to be representative."

Mr Gwekwerere said Mr Bloomfield's union and the ZMU should merge and then hold free leadership elections.

"Bloomfield would be kicked out," he said.

Mr Gwekwerere — who admits to never having worked on a mine—said if the AMU refused to amalgamate, the ZMU would surge ahead, enlist most of the miners and make Mr Bloomfield "irrelevant".

"They will be so unrepresentative that they will be deregistered as a union," he added.

Clearly angry, Mr Bloomfield said he didn't recognise the new union.

"How can this man Gwekwerere claim to represent miners when he's never been on a mine?" he said.

"His claim that there are 170 000 miners in the country shows how little he knows.

"The real figure is 60 000 — about 6 500 of them are staff members who wouldn't belong to my union and 5 500 work on very small mines."

He said the AMU represented about one in three miners.

Mr Bloomfield scoffed at talk of a merger and leadership elections.

"Any voting will take place at our congress early next year—and that's got nothing to do with Gwekwerere," he said.

Mr Sithole, who was a ZANU MP in the Government of National Unity, is in the greatest danger of being ousted.

The national executive of his United Textile Workers' Union is expected to meet on Saturday to decide whether to sack him.

But it is believed that the decision is a foregone conclusion.

The national executive is furious at Mr Sithole's repeated allegations that the Government is trying to turn the labour movement into a ZANU (PF) puppet.

He has also spoken out strongly against the setting up of rival unions, the activities of "quasi-revolutionary" workers' committees and intimidation.

Mr Sithole has been invited to the national executive meeting—but is not expected to attend.

Another charge levelled at Mr Sithole, who has been in trade unionism all his life, is that he has failed to hold a national congress for three years.

Mr Gwekwerere is accused of backing the national executive in its bid to fire the union boss.

Mr Chimusoro is suffering the same problem as Mr Bloomfield.

A rival union, the Zimbabwe Engineering and Iron Workers' Union, has been set up and is trying to poach Mr Chimusoro's members.

"They want to have more members than my union," he said.

He added that a "handful of dissatisfied" people were trying to whip up opposition to his leadership.

Mr Chimusoro said he was spending most of his time going from factory to factory trying to weed out the "cockroaches".

"Much of this opposition comes from people not even in the engineering industry," he claimed.

Mr Gwekwerere, who returned to Zimbabwe in February after 14 years in Britain, said: "Chimusoro is in a lot of trouble.

"He recently signed a very foolish agreement. His members are very dissatisfied."

The campaign to fell the three union chiefs is part of the struggle being waged by the Zimbabwe Trades Union Congress for leadership of the worker.

Both the rival Zimbabwe Mineworkers' Union and Zimbabwe Engineering and Metal Workers' Union were formed by the ZTUC, which has been labelled by Mr Sithole as an arm of ZANU (PF).

ZTUC spokesmen have repeatedly professed their political independence.

Labour Minister Kumbirai Kangai has warned union men to keep out of politics.

Mr Bloomfield said: "I support this. I also think politicians should keep out of trade unionism."

Strikes May Be Against Workers' Interests

[Article by Muongororí]

THE phenomenon of strikes has a long and traumatic history. Significantly, the Russian proletariat revolution of 1917 was a turning point in the recognition of the power of the worker as a formidable force in shaping the destiny of any nation.

Over the years that power has grown increasingly awesome. In our world, largely dependent on industrialisation as the vehicle of advancement, the worker can no longer be regarded as a passive component of the state machinery, but presents the most volatile single entity with the undeniable capacity to build or cripple a nation.

Having said that, it goes without saying that when power of such magnitude is mishandled, or exploited irresponsibly, the consequences can be disastrous.

No doubt politicians are inspired by motives of the highest order when they make certain promises to their electorate. It is also true that when such promises prove untenable, those whose expectations are aroused by these promises feel cheated and become disgruntled.

Few would deny that for nearly a century of colonial rule, the black Zimbabwean worker was exploited by a system that stubbornly refused to acknowledge his personal ambitions and aspirations. It was for this very reason that Zimbabweans took up arms and decided to wage a liberation struggle — and, happily, that goal has been realised.

But as nature would have it, all deeply entrenched systems, even in the face of revolutionary change, always tend to perpetuate themselves. In other words, the process of change, such as that Zimbabwe must go through, is essentially a slow one.

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has repeatedly acknowledged this fact in his numerous appeals to Zimbabweans at large to have patience while the Government takes the necessary measures to restructure the Civil Service and make it more compatible with the changed political situation.

A week ago, in Marandellas, Mr Mugabe did not mince his words when he told white commercial farmers that his Government was dismayed that some of them had resorted to retrenching their labourers in retaliation against the Government ruling on minimum wages.

He did not end there. Outlining reasons for the Government stand on the matter, the Prime Minister rightly pointed out the dangers of maintaining a dissatisfied work force in terms of productivity and loyalty to the employer.

Indeed, some of the grievances for which thousands of workers at Wankie Collieries, the Trojan Nickel Mine at Bindura and several other organisations that have suffered during the recent spate of wildcat strikes, could well be genuine and deserving of urgent attention.

But the question that must be asked is, whether by resorting to strike action the workers involved were convinced this to be in their best interests and those of the nation at large, or whether this blatant defiance of authority is a recourse to vindicate a system that most were told would disappear with the coming of independence.

In my opinion, probabilities seem to indicate the latter.

What should be realised however, is that strikes, wildcat or whatever, have a debilitating effect on any economy, and in Zimbabwe's situation, invariably stretch further the road to recovery.

Not only that. Strikes, however well intentioned, inevitably create the impression of industrial instability, and it needs no seer to predict what harm that could do to the country's foreign investment prospects.

Most pertinent were the remarks by the president of the Associated Mineworkers' Union, Mr Howard Bloomfield, when he stated that no country could afford the luxury of stoppages while at the same time trying to resuscitate an economy battered from all sides by the war and consequent hostility from the international community.

But perhaps at this time, when politics seem to be playing a hand in everything, this message would have carried more weight if it were the theme the pep talk given by the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai to workers during his travels around the country.

The workers must be told that since the country is now in their hands, by striking and thereby weakening the country's economic base, it is they that stand to lose most. If Zimbabwe's economy collapses because of their irresponsible actions, the workers must be made aware that they, too, will fall along with it.

They must be made to appreciate that where grievances exist they should be expressed through appropriate administrative channels such as the newly established committees at places of work.

Only through telling the workers the truth can we hope to arrest the situation. That alone is an onerous challenge, and one that calls for tact, courage and honesty, and most of all, the godly quality of being able to appreciate the frailty of the human character.

Some End Strike, Unions Appeal

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 80 pp 1, 2

[Text]

BULAWAYO.

A RETURN to work by about one third of the striking miners at Wankie Colliery was expected to start at 6 a.m. today.

A meeting at midday yesterday of more than 200 workers at No. 2 Colliery Village was unanimous that the strike should end.

A delegation of gang leaders approached the workers' committee yesterday about security and was assured that it was safe to go back to work.

The workers' committee chairman at No 2 Colliery, Mr Matthew Moyo said last night: "I am expecting everybody on the 6 a.m. shift who is in the compound to report for work.

"There are quite a number away in the TTLs and I have asked the management to be patient with them.

"Later in the week every single worker at the colliery should be back at work."

Mr Moyo said "no intimidation whatever" was taking place in the village and he did not expect the return to work to be interfered with.

Yesterday about 70 workers, apart from the few who have worked throughout the strike, returned for the 6 a.m. shift at No. 2 Colliery — the same number as on Saturday.

DIFFERENT

About 30 of the strikers turned up on the afternoon shift for the first time.

Mr Moyo predicts this morning's shift will come quite close to the full complement of 500.

At Makwika, the No 3 Colliery village, 500 strikers met for 2½ hours yesterday morning, but there the story was quite different.

None of the miners want to go back to work.

Workers' committee chairman Mr Kenneth Ncube said it was unlikely to make any difference if other workers at Wankie went back to work.

"The people have heard that Mr Kangai is talking about sending the police in," Mr Ncube said.

"The police can do what they like, people here are still after their money."

Mr Ncube thought people might return to work if the Minister of Labour, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, visited the colliery and explained the situation — even if they had to wait for the refund of their pension money.

There are about 1 500 workers at No. 3 Colliery and it is there that all underground mining takes place.

About the same number work at No. 2 Colliery. Almost another 1 000 strikers normally work in open-cast mines or in other parts of the colliery operation.

Unions Appeal to Minister

THE United Trade Unions of Zimbabwe has appealed to the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, to review the trade union situation in the light of the wave of strikes in various parts of Zimbabwe.

In a statement released after a meeting in a Salisbury hotel the delegates said: "We appeal to the Minister of Labour to review the situation as a top priority and make known that we are always ready to assist him in achieving an internationally recognised trade union centre, built on goodwill."

Members of the National African Trade Union Congress, the African Trade Union Congress, the Zimbabwe Federation of Labour, the Trade Union Congress of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe African Congress of Unions were represented at the meeting.

The "interim executive meeting" was called to discuss the unrest in industry and the position of the rival union, the Zimbabwe Trade Union Congress.

The statement accused the co-ordinating committee formed to set up the ZTUC of disregarding its terms of reference.

"To date this committee, which appears to operate without a quorum, has never at any time attempted to communicate with other trade union centres and their recognised umbrella body, the United Trade Unions of Zimbabwe," it said.

DAILY GAZETTE

PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON SOCIAL ROLE OF CHURCH REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 80 p 17

[Text]

PRESIDENT BANANA has had a long innings in the struggle for the social "transformation" of the church in Zimbabwe.

Since he assumed office the President has addressed many concerned church leaders on the need for change.

In an interview at his Government House office President Banana discussed the force behind his motivation for encouraging the church to adapt to the needs of the majority of his country's people.

The President was as versatile in conversation as any diplomat, but still his philosophy clashed heavily with the atmosphere of the former colonial presidential residence.

Q How well do you feel your message on the Gospel has been received until now since you started on the path of "reorientating" the church to transform?

A This question can best be answered by the churches themselves.

There are usual contradictions within the church with some elements who will respond to my call but at the same time there will be those very conservatives who would probably feel me an intruder in the role of the church in pre-and post-independence is perhaps too radical for their thinking.

INDIFFERENT

And there would be the third group who would be indifferent.

Q Tell us more about this message you have for the church in Zimbabwe in particular?

A First of all the church must take a fresh look at its historical involvement and its contribution to the advancement of our people in this land.

Secondly it would have to come to terms with the demands of a changing situation and adjust to the new social order.

I am criticising the church for its failure in the colonial era to be forthright against an inhumane manner and oppressive system that denied our people dignity and reduced them to nonentities and sub-humans.

No I believe the church should have taken a vanguard posture.

It is not enough to preach and pray about the human situation.

One has to take positive or direct action to address the social inequalities that are obtaining during our time.

SUPPORT

But on the contrary what one noticed over the years was the tacit support that most of the religious institutions gave to the successive minority regimes before our national independence.

All I am saying now is that the changed situation presents a new circumstances.

We have created a situation where the important thing is the involvement of an African identity and the strengthening of the African personality and experience.

Theology and the church must accommodate African experience and traditions, reflecting [illegible] philosophy of the Government is to try and create a situation wherein economic imbalances of the past will give way to a new economic order.

Churches could be instrumental in supporting this approach.

There is need for the church to shed and redouble its missionary image and accept the challenges of this new situation, so that the Gospel can be understood in the context of the African experience.

Q Are people [illegible] alienated from the church more now than in the colonial past?

A Yes. In the past the people did not feel the church belonged to them.

It was a foreign organisation

the failure to identify completely with the oppressed people and support the struggle for liberation rendered itself irrelevant and it was dubbed "the church of the status quo".

Our young people were leaving the church in greater numbers because they found no inspiration.

Now our people are giving the church the opportunity to prove itself in its seriousness and commitment to the theme of human rights and the uplifting of our people.

It is a chance for the church to participate in the process of reconciliation, reconstruction and redevelopment.

I said in the past that the church placed itself in an unnecessary dilemma by saying there were two sides to the coin and arguing that we cannot identify.

Whereas to me it was clear the Rhodesian forces were fighting to maintain an unjust social order and to defend an unjust system.

The liberation forces however were fighting to create a new and just order.

MASSES

So whatever Government programmes are implemented it would be an expression of the aspirations of the broad masses of our people.

If the church identifies itself with these programmes it would be identifying with these aspirations of the masses of the people.

Q: Is this stand you take on the Christian principle behind the philosophy of liberation theology? What does this mean?

A: I think we all people stand for the idea of the relevance of African theology.

In philosophy and theology we have to find a way from our own background and principles.

This is the country we have with its problems because their approaches have been motivated and influenced by their own culture as missionaries.

Christianity has been brought within the framework of Western theology.

But my own religious outlook has been influenced by my African context and experience.

In my understanding of religion stems from the struggle to be free. Africa has for long been a colony of Western imperialism and capitalism.

Our people have far too many been victims of Western exploitation.

In order for them to understand what God is saying you have to look at their own oppressive situations before independence.

And if the church is to identify with the struggle for liberation it will be understood very clearly by the African because this is what Jesus did.

He did not preach and pray only but identified himself with the poor and suffering.

The church has to identify with the poor suffering and oppressed and be seen to identify with the liberation struggles.

I believe through the involvement in the liberation struggles one is able to experience the process of humanisation and appreciate the pressures that have characterised African life under oppression for several decades.

Religion has got to go deep and not just stop at the social problems and political dimensions.

[illegible] the church fails to do this and continues preaching as though all is fine in the world it will be of no good to Africa.

Q: How are all you are practical ways the church is behind in the physical needs of the people of Zimbabwe?

A: I must commend it for participation, welfare and refugees.

It has to respond and accept the responsibility people and provide them in the present trouble period.

As we were enjoying the holidays that the people out of Rhodesia are dealing with the traumatic and psychological problems.

This year has to become the year of the people power within the church.

Missionaries must not come with dry-cut solutions. They must come to their decisions through broad consultations with the people.

Q: How long do you think it will take the church to become one of the poor and underprivileged?

CONTENT

A: I don't control the church programmes. I could not possibly give them a timetable. It is entirely within the competence and jurisdiction of the churches themselves.

Much will depend on the content of the message of the church and its mode of operation.

If it continues to behave as the [illegible] of our African interests I am afraid it will continue to be stagnant and will perhaps become more and more irrelevant.

Its influence will diminish. Membership will decrease and the church might even die a natural death.

Many churches don't really understand what is at stake. They profess to understand the African, but they don't.

Q: On the positive side, have any of the churches in Zimbabwe committed to the uplifting of the oppressed Africans and how did they do this?

A: Well their [illegible] by spirit of the educational and health institutions was commendable.

This was against the policies of the regime which tried to keep the African down.

The impetus they put up in various parts of the country improved the health standards of the African people.

We appreciate the contributions of the church in these ways.

Q: What relations do you see between the role of the church in other areas of the Third World such as Latin America and the role in Zimbabwe?

A: We start [illegible] with the Latin American

people the exploitation, oppression and the denial of human rights and dignity.

The message of the church is universal in that it seeks to create a new mankind, a new social order throughout the world so there will not be oppression of one group by another.

Yet every situation is unique in itself. So the church really needs to express solidarity with oppressed and struggling people everywhere.

Solidarity like this will reassure these oppressed people that their cause is human and just and has the support of all progressive and peace-loving people the world over.

Q What social order do you see the church supporting in the world today?

POVERTY

A More than half the world is living in abject poverty. The main cause of that, I don't hesitate to say, is largely imperialism of the so-called big powers and Western capitalism that fosters the spirit of individualism and selfishness and thrives on exploitation.

It is exploiting the natural and human resources for the benefit of a handful of people.

The new social order envisaged is a situation of redressing and transforming the world economic order.

This means, of course, we have to attack the power centres and call for the redistribution of wealth, so that the broad masses of the people can benefit from the natural and human resources that God so kindly provided.

I think the churches can help identify these areas of the sources of oppression so that they can be declared common enemies of progressive mankind and be fought to the end.

Development is being controlled and tailored to benefit only a few individuals. This state of affairs has got to be redressed. It is a formidable problem.

Q How do you think the church is challenged to assist in transforming structures that promote and perpetuate injustice and oppression, including those within its own ranks?

A If the church was in opposition to the broad masses of our people it would lead to a confrontation. With a collision taking place, you know who will be crushed.

The freedom we created is for all to participate and help, but the church cannot do this if it hangs on to old structures.

Economic justice is the kingpin of what we are talking about here.

One is perturbed by the discrimination that still goes on in the church. It has to come to an end.

Most of our leading industrialists also claim to be churchmen. So the church can have an influence in driving home the need for change and to end the exploitation of workers.

Many workers are still being exploited. I also know that some churches have shares in some companies.

These churches have to take a fresh look at this association with companies which are exploiting people.

The Government is trying to define a new economic policy.

I hope that we will not get shouts of "communists" or "marxists" because we cannot sit and watch the people bleed to death.

ATTACKED

Q The editor of the Catholic newspaper for Southern Africa, the Southern Cross, recently attacked your stance on religious in an editorial which said you were making demands on the church that were made during the former regime's control and that it was also oppressive. What do you say to this?

A I have not threatened anyone. Maybe this is what he is trying to suggest.

All I have done is to give them the challenge. We now have a new situation in Zimbabwe and they have to embark on an exodus from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe.

The church must accept this challenge and involvement and take positive action.

It's a great honour he could have said after the Government came into power: "To hell with the churches."

Because they were part of the system that was oppressive, so they could have been told they should go.

DISCRIMINATED

Q How could the church listen to the poor?

A The reason why the church found itself within the same camp as successive former repressive regimes was because it was dining with the devil.

It discriminated as much against people. The church despised the ordinary people because they believed these had nothing to contribute.

This was a tragedy. The church has got to identify with the grassroots.

Also this business of demarcation between what the church misguidedly calls "sacred" and "secular" must come to an end.

The church has got to go to the crossroads of life. Then they will understand what the people want and what their needs are.

Q As President of Zimbabwe, what is your message to the people of your country on the Gospel of Jesus Christ? What does Christ say to them in their situation today?

A The Prime Minister has appealed for all to combine efforts towards reconciliation, reconstruction and rebuilding from the devastations of the past and the damaged economy.

This rebuilding must be designed so that it benefits the broad masses and brings an end to economic exploitation.

Reconciliation is also a Christian message because in the past we have been divided into Communist, black, white and Asian, rich and poor and enslaved and subjugated. We were fighting each other.

Today we have to declare war on irreconcilables, tribalism, regionalism and racism.

BACKBONE

It is senseless having another physical war to-day we have our independence and should emerge as a united people.

If we achieve this then we will have a Christian and human community.

This could be the backbone of all Southern Africa and even the whole of Africa.

Anyone who wants to dissuade our people and undermine the Government of the people is declaring war on the whole of the people.

This would provoke the wrath of the people.

Q Can you describe the politics of Jesus?

A I have never spiritualised Jesus Christ. He came into a human situation very similar to our own. The Palestinians were being oppressed by the Romans.

We see this coming out in his very first address to the crowds at the Sermon on the Mount.

These were his first words on his purpose.

It was like the manifesto of Jesus Christ because he said there that he came into a situation of oppression and came to liberate.

He preached a Gospel of involvement and concern for the downtrodden.

IDENTIFY

Anyone who is party to the same faith cannot help but identify to strive for a more equitable system of wealth.

Q Would Christ support the liberation struggles in the world today?

A He has been and already has taken his position. When I look at a guerilla, I see Jesus Christ.

The Gospel says that "greater love has no man than this ... that he can lay down his life for his friends."

When I see a guerilla, I see this happening.

The guerilla says "I must give up my life for my country." He dies so that we may live.

There can be no Christian testimony greater than when a man lays down his life for the liberation of his people and country.

I cannot be convinced that these men were "devils" because had they not given up their lives then we would not have freedom today.

Support Liberation Movement in South Africa

THE church has to embark on a propaganda campaign to sell Zimbabwe to South Africa and Namibia, President Banana said this week.

It should tell them "what you thought was impossible is possible" he urged.

In a scathing attack on the South African Government the President claimed this was the message to be spread to whites there "with their little minds" who were so "scared and frightened" of human dignity.

"The churches here have to lead their support to the liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia" President Banana said.

He warned that churches would be negating the message of the Gospel if they identified with the status quo rather than the masses of the South African people.

"This business of referring to the liberation movements as terrorists must come to an end" he said.

He said the church in South Africa, however, was "in the frying pan".

"Its voice is challenging the South African regime to renounce apartheid is important as a value judgment on the iniquitous system of apartheid."

While the church in South Africa had to learn from "our mistakes" it needed Zimbabwe's encouragement to continue to expose the "futility" of the South African system, he said.

The Gospel of "pie in the sky" was not going to bring redemption to either black or white in South Africa, according to President Banana.

He felt the liberation of the oppressed would result in the liberation of the whites.

Ironically said the President, the most unliberated sections of that community are the whites.

"Psychologically their mentality has been damaged and polluted and they cannot be human until the black people are human enough" he said.

He warned whites from Zimbabwe "running like rats down south" because they thought there were greener pastures there.

"I think we must warn like-minded people that there is bound to be an explosion in South Africa," he said.

"It is not a safe sanctuary for all time."

"We have a strange situation of people with a propensity for glorifying.

"When Africa north of the Zambezi got independence the whites ran to this country. They ran away from independence, majority rule, human rights and justice" the President said.

He warned "Now many more are being tempted to run to South Africa. But even in that country change will come."

The President was adamant that by running to South Africa Christian whites of Zimbabwe were lending false support to a false status situation.

The Clergy and the Communist Manifesto

PRESIDENT BANANA says he has no religious idols and is open-minded enough to read any literature regardless of whether he agrees with it or not.

He reads anything so that he can get to terms with particular concepts and the thinking of people "in the other camp".

The President said in an interview that he believed one should not be narrow and restrictive in one's choice of literature.

"To give an informed criticism of a situation you have to know that situation," he said.

During the interview, President Banana was reminded of an incident at a Bulawayo library when he looked for a copy of the communist manifesto.

A library official said to him: "Oh, I find it strange for a minister of religion to be reading literature of that sort."

"What's wrong with it? How can he be so narrow?" the President asked.

President Banana said that the librarian probably wanted to read things that Mr Ian Smith had told him to read.

He mentioned as one of the tragedies of the past the censorship in this country which dictated what people should read almost to the extent of wanting to think for them.

CSO: 4420

AIR FORCE 'INFANTRY' FORMED

London WEST AFRICA in English 22 Nov 80 p 1

[Text]

THERE had been minor difficulties in amalgamating former members of ZANLA and ZIPRA into the Air Force of Zimbabwe, Air Marshal Frank Musselt said here yesterday.

But he was determined that no obstacles would stand in the way of the amalgamation exercise, he said.

Air Marshal Musselt was reviewing the passing-out parade of more than 100 recruits who have completed up to 12 months' training for service in the Air Force of Zimbabwe Regiment.

The unit was established about 18 months ago as an extension of the security branch of the air force to guard the service's installations and air bases.

They are the infantry of the air force and their existence was kept under wraps until yesterday when the fourth course passed out.

The plan is to bring the unit up to a strength of 1 100 and to train the men in guard duties, including anti-aircraft gunnery, for which the former guerillas are providing the weaponry.

The air force regiment recruits are trained at a base established about 18 months ago near the formerly top secret Fylde Air Base between Hartley and Gatooma.

Air Marshal Musselt said the air force and the Government intended to expand the regiment to a size where it could effectively defend all air force facilities.

More courses would follow, he said.

"This expansion is in conjunction with the national amalgamation exercises, and the air force has welcomed into its ranks former members of ZANLA and ZIPRA.

"The exercise has not been without minor difficulties, and is not yet complete.

"However, I am determined that no obstacles shall prevent a smooth, speedy and complete amalgamation taking place.

"In conjunction with the formation of Zimbabwe and the change of name of air force, we have embarked upon a programme of design and manufacture of new flags and uniform embellishments," he said.

He hoped that the need to use acting and temporary ranks and the interim devices to help the amalgamation exercise would soon fall away and that the Air Force of Zimbabwe could go into the future as an example to the rest of the nation.

"The sooner we forget our past loyalties and discard all those things which distinguish us the sooner we will be the efficient and reliable air force that our country has a right to expect of us."

Calling for unity, the air force chief said: "Few people, if any, will stand to benefit from division within the air force or the nation."

Everyone should forget political or racial loyalties and develop the best possible air force as the best way of serving the country.

The defence forces must be apolitical, he said because they were tools for the defence of all the people of the nation.

"To this end the air force will continue to set and maintain high standards," Air Marshal Musselt said.

CSO: 4420

CONTROVERSIAL SHONA BIBLE EXAMINED

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 5

[Text] A four-man committee has been set up to revise the controversial 1979 Shona Bible.

The revision will be made in light of comments and criticisms of the translation, which came under heavy attack from four of the 27 church denominations which had backed its publication.

A major criticism was that the translation had sacrificed originality for intelligibility and a seven-man committee was promptly set up to investigate errors and "dig out all the problems they could find".

Among other findings, the committee questioned the use of certain Shona words such as "svikiro" (Shona for spirit medium) and "Tenzi" (meaning master or lord), and the changes to the meaning of some verses, at the same time feeling concern over what they described as "serious flaws in the translation".

Universal

For example, they said, the word Jehovah had been translated "Tenzi". They felt that Jehovah should have been left as it was, being the personal name of the God of Israel, and because of its added universal acceptance and usage in the Shona language and among the Shona people.

Another controversial translation was that of the word "sacrifice" to "madiramhamba", which changed the whole meaning. Sacrifice involves killing, whereas a "diramhamba" does not necessarily mean killing, but merely dedication.

Another serious error had been the use of "tuku"--to describe Mary's condition while expecting Jesus. It implied that Mary was suddenly seen with a bulging stomach, a description not in keeping with the level of dignity attributed to the language of the Word of God, and to the Mother of God herself.

The paragraph was read to a group of schoolchildren who immediately burst out laughing when the term was read out to them.

Contradiction

Translating Cor: 7:36, the Shona Bible implied that premarital sex was not a sin, as long as the couple intended to marry.

This contradicted Christian teaching in the rest of the scriptures, the committee said in its report.

A member of the committee said the Bible Society of Zimbabwe conceded some of the criticisms were justified, and that more than a hundred omissions and errors would not have to be reviewed and edited by the new committee.

It was hoped the committee would complete its work in 12 to 15 months. It was hoped to start towards the end of next year.

There was no question however of withdrawing the 1979 version.

Sales of the 1979 Shona Bible in its present form would continue, he said, adding that of the 50 000 copies printed last year, 35 000 had been sold.

CSO: 4420

WIDEN MARKETS, URGES SWEDISH TRADE BODY

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 80 p 4

[Text]

IT WOULD be in Zimbabwe's interests to diversify its economic and commercial relations to encompass more countries says the visiting director-general of the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), Mr Anders Forsse.

He was responding to a suggestion that import limitations might have placed Sweden in an unfavourable trading position as the result of most-favoured-nation trade status, which other European countries enjoy with Zimbabwe.

In an interview Mr Forsse said: "I am confident that Swedish exporters will be treated on an equal footing with other exporters to this country.

"It is true that our trade relations with Zimbabwe are in a very fresh state. But the fact that Swedish companies were not among Rhodesia's trading partners during UDI should not be counted against us now that Zimbabwe is establishing industrial and commercial relations with many countries."

He said he was "very impressed" at the growing co-operation between many Third World countries and the European Community, of which Sweden is not a member.

"But we expect to co-operate in many instances with the signatories of the Lome Convention and we could also, as it were, compare notes when it comes to other countries who are not subject to Lome."

He hoped relations forged between Sweden and Zimbabwe in the field of rural development — to which Sweden has committed about $9 million in untied aid this year — would help foster commercial and industrial relations between the two countries.

"It is in the interests of both countries to develop such relations and, from the point of view which SIDA defends, it would certainly be in the interests of Zimbabwe to diversify its economic and commercial relations so that it encompasses more countries than at present."

Turning to his meetings with Government Ministers and officials Mr Forsse said: "We want to lend Zimbabwe a hand during its transitional difficulties. For a few years we are going to be as helpful as we can.

"Given the future stability of Zimbabwe, I do not feel there is the need for a very long term continuation of Swedish development aid in the conventional sense."

He said the bulk of Swedish overseas development assistance was directed towards the 25 poorest nations of the world. Zimbabwe was not among these.

"Indeed, there is every sign of rapid and fortunate social and economic development in Zimbabwe which is relatively well-endowed."

Commenting on the recent failure of the 11th special session of the United Nations General Assembly to reach agreement on a restructuring world economy, Mr Forsse confirmed that Sweden supported Third World demands for a bigger say in the decision-making processes of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

But he was not optimistic about the future outcome of such negotiations between the rich and poor countries. Britain, the United States and West Germany had consistently blocked underdeveloped countries' demands for a new international economic order.

"The rich countries do not see their own interests reflected in the NIEO (new order), despite the argument put forward by the Brandt Commission of a mutuality of interests between rich and poor countries."

Sweden, Mr Forsse said, had clearly recognised the concept of mutual interests between developed and underdeveloped countries. This was reflected in the fact that it was one of the very few industrialised countries to have met the U.N.'s recommended target of diverting 1 percent of the gross national product in aid to the Third World.

Britain and the United States were lagging far behind this target.

He confirmed that, because SIDA's main development thrust in this country was directed at the rural sector, it would be for private Swedish companies to launch job-training schemes and to provide employment if they were encouraged to become active here.

CSO: 4420

EFFORT TO UPGRADE POOR FOOD REPORTED

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 80 p 5

[Text]

BULAWAYO.

A MASSIVE supplementary feeding programme to alleviate malnutrition was expected to be launched in Zimbabwe early next month, the head of the Bulawayo office of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Mr Eugene Birrer, said here.

The programme, which will provide under-nourished children between the ages of one and five with one supplementary meal each day, comes after a survey of the country's malnutrition problem by the British welfare organisation, Oxfam.

The results of the survey, conducted a few months ago, show that in [illegible] of Zimbabwe [illegible] cent of young [illegible] suffer from [illegible]

"The programme is being finalised, but already several overseas and local agencies have shown an interest in it and have offered to donate funds," said Mr Birrer.

"These include Christian Care, the Save the Children Fund, Freedom From Hunger, Unicef, the Catholic Commission for Social Services and Development, the Zimbabwe Red Cross and the UNHCR itself.

CENTRES

"The plan is to run the programme from December until the next harvest, probably in April next year. Feeding centres in badly-affected areas will be set up where mothers will be provided with extra food to cook for their children.

"One extra meal a day, consisting of maize meal, beans and groundnuts will be provided, giving a calorie count of 400 with 11.8 g of protein.

The scheme is to be administered by the Ministry of Health which will also be responsible for training ground workers at village level in the care of malnourished children.

"They will be shown how to identify a malnourished child by measuring the circumference of his arm. If it's less than 13 cm, this is a clear indication of malnutrition," said Mr Birrer.

"Since no other criteria will be used, every child with a problem will be treated on an equal basis."

According to the Oxfam survey, the areas most affected by malnutrition are along the Zambezi Valley, in the west of the country from Beitbridge to Wankie, and on the north-east border.

Where the problem is really serious, pilot schemes may be started before the whole programme gets under way.

No accurate estimate of the cost of the programme has yet been made.

CSO: 4420

'OPERATION SEED' DIFFICULTIES REPORTED

Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 3

[Text]

OPERATION Seed, the ambitious rehabilitation programme to turn thousands of former guerillas into farmers, is being dogged by difficulties.

For the ZANLA and ZIPRA men are not easily settling into the farmers' life.

They see themselves as soldiers, not farmers.

But observers do not believe the scheme is on the verge of collapse.

Operation Seed — Soldiers Employed in Economic Development — was launched by Joint High Command in June to employ ex-guerillas.

Thousands of guerillas were organised into task forces to work in three areas.

LITTLE DONE

At Mushumbi Pools ZIPRA men were set to clear an overgrown irrigation scheme. Little work appears to have been done.

Some of the men are believed to have been moved to Salisbury's Seke camp. They were previously based at Assembly Point Papa at Mana Pools until they were moved to Mushumbi Pools.

At Silalabuhwa ZIPRA forces were sent to prepare land at an irrigation scheme 30 km south of Filabusi. A little work has been done.

At Middle Sabi ZANLA ex-guerillas were sent to an irrigation scheme in the Lowveld to clear land for development. The work is believed to be under way.

Some men will be left on the sites to continue farming to meet Mr Mugabe's post-election appeal: "Beat your swords into ploughshares."

One reason given why the men are reluctant to work is the basic conditions at the sites.

The men live in tents, their food is prepared in the open and they have to clear rough bush with hand tools.

There is very little mechanised equipment.

Observers believe that if conditions improve radically production will step up.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

OVER-AGE CIVIL SERVANTS--Hundreds of over-age white civil servants will have a bleak Christmas knowing that they may be declared redundant early next year. The dismissals will be part of the Government's campaign to create jobs for blacks. Notices to quit by March 31 are expected to be sent out soon after the holiday. The Government is drawing up a list of all those set to be dismissed. The Public Service Commission has asked each Government department to provide the names and jobs of every employee who will be 60 by December 31. This list must reach the PSC by the end of this week. Another list--of workers considered "essential"--has to reach the PSC by December 15. Ministers have personally to ask for any pensioners to be kept on. A PSC spokesman said: "Anyone who can be replaced will go. Anyone who can't be replaced yet will stay. "There will not be any wholesale, indiscriminate sackings." The Public Services Association refused to comment yesterday. [Text] [Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 1]

YOUNG SOCIALIST LEAGUE PLANNED--A group of young men calling themselves young socialists, plans to form a Youth Socialist League to reorientate young Zimbabweans toward national development after the war. Mr Angus Baden Martens (24), of Salisbury, said yesterday that he and a colleague, Mr G. Masava, were initiating a scheme which would involve youth in voluntary work. Between 30 and 40 young socialists met in June in Salisbury to discuss the project and plans were still being worked out before the organisations could be registered. Mr Martens said the organisation would have nothing to do with party politics. It would seek to co-operate with various Government ministries, "so that we can unite Zimbabwean youths on a national basis to achieve progress in national development." He said the league could be useful in other fields such as voluntary assistance in educating the masses and in health programmes. An official at the Ministry of Sport, Youth and Recreation said the authorities were unaware of plans to set up the league. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 80 p 7]

GUERRILLAS RELOCATED--A hundred armed guerillas from the ZANU (PF)-owned Grazeley Farm in Arcturus were transferred to Salisbury's Zengeza camp on Wednesday. The move was part of the strategy to reduce the number of ZANLA men and women on Grazeley and nearby Oasis farms from 1 800 to about 200--the number needed to work the land.--SMR. [Text] [Salisbury THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 23 Nov 80 p 3]

INFLATION WARNING--Bulawayo--The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe warns that with the recovery of the economy and the banking sector's high state of liquidity, there is an increasing danger of excessive demand becoming a major inflationary factor. In its first quarterly economic review since December 1965, the Bank says the gross domestic production may well be 5 percent higher than last year. Manufacturing production was up 14 percent in the first six months of this year--(the period covered by the review)--while the value of mining output was up 62 percent, and the value of retail turnover up 12 percent. After years of negative growth the farming sector is not expected to make any contribution to the gross domestic product this year. Almost all sectors of the manufacturing industry had higher output levels and, in mining, the sharp upturn in 1979 continued during the first six months of this year. In the building industry the value of building plans increased by 180 percent in real terms, and the major constraint on future growth of the industry will be the productive capacity and not demand, says the review. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 80 p 1]

RF CANDIDATES--The standing committee of the Rhodesian Front meets today to select a panel of prospective candidates for the Highlands parliamentary seat vacated last month by Wing Commander Rob Gaunt. On Monday the panel will choose a candidate to contest the seat for the Rhodesian Front should a by-election become necessary, the party chairman, Mr Geoff Kluckow, said yesterday. He said the procedure of selecting Wing Commander Gaunt's successor was involved and democratic". By a proclamation in the Government Gazette last Friday, President Banana announced that nominations for the seat would be received on December 1. The President has fixed January 13 as polling day if more than one candidate comes forward and a by-election is necessary. The Registrar-General, Mr Brian Oliver, said he had not yet received official notice from Parliament that the seats occupied by Dr Ariston Chambati, the Ambassador to Bonn, and Mr Faral Masango, High Commissioner to Tanzania, had become vacant. Mr Oliver is expected to receive the notice after the Government has formally told Parliament of the official appointment of the two MPs to ambassadorial posts. Their seats will be filled by nominations submitted by their parties. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 80 p 1]

LABOR UNION MERGER DENIED--The president of the Building Workers' Trade Union, Mr B. Durand, yesterday denied his union had merged with the United Building and Allied Industrial Workers' Union. Earlier this week Mr Elias Chiwanza told the Herald he had been appointed administrative secretary of the new union and that Mr Edward Njekesa, leader of the BAIWU, would be president. Mr Chiwanza is a member of the BWTU, a registered union. "I categorically state that our Salisbury-based executive knew nothing about the so-called merger," Mr Durand said. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 80 p 3]

5,000 FAMILIES RESETTLED--More than 5,000 war-displaced families have been resettled on 87 farms acquired by the Zimbabwean Government since independence, the Deputy Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Mr Movan Mahachi, said yesterday, reports Ziana. The Minister said in an interview that the acquisition of the farms, in the Umtali and Shamva areas, to give homeless people a new start was part of the overall resettlement programme introduced by the Government. This programme would be adhered to despite shortages of equipment

caused when promised aid failed to materialise. Among items desperately needed for the exercise, he said, were tractors, bulldozers and expertise. Asked about vacant land and squatters, Mr Mahachi said the Government would not "chase away" people squatting on land owned by absent landlords. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 20 Nov 80 p 1]

MORE AID FROM U.K.--London--Britain is to give a further £2 million to Zimbabwe to help train the country's army, the Foreign Office Minister, Mr Douglas Hurd, told Parliament yesterday. Britain has already pledged £75 million.--Ziana-Reuter. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 22 Nov 80 p 1]

TYNWALD SQUATTER HOUSES RAZED--Squatter houses had been destroyed in the Tynwald area, Salisbury City Council was told last night. The chairman of the health, housing and community services committee, Councillor Frank Mills, said that by yesterday 135 squatter families had been moved from their houses in Tynwald into hostels in Harare. The squatter camps were formed on two properties and the population had been estimated at 1 900 in a council report last month. The council also recommended last month that squatters could be accommodated at the Matapi hostels in Harare. It said a properly established squatter camp at Dzivaresekwa with ablutions and communal water supplies might house 792 families. The city engineer, Mr P. C. H. Houghton, said the main squatter problem had been in the Tynwald area. "We have destroyed and burnt all the squatters' accommodation," he said. All the families had been moved from one of the settlements, he said. In the other, all but eight had been moved. They had argued to stay because they worked in the area. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 21 Nov 80 p 1]

AIR FORCE TRAINEES--More than 100 Air Force of Zimbabwe Regiment recruits ended their training course in a blaze of glory on Friday at their training base between Hartley and Gatooma. With torches on their rifles they marched past in a fiery formation which provided a spectacular display for the reviewing officer, air force commander, Air Marshal Frank Mussell. On Saturday half the recruits were sent to New Sarum in Salisbury and the other half to Thornhill in Gwelo and in accordance with the tradition started when the first course passed out about 12 month ago they have to walk to their bases. The training base is exactly halfway between New Sarum and Thornhill and all face a 150 km march. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 24 Nov 80 p 1]

CSO: 4420

END

END OF FICHE DATE FILMED

December 12, 1980

D.S.